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Umineko

WHEN THEY CRY

2

Episode 6 Dawn of the Golden Witch





Umineko

WHEN THEY CRY

Episode 6 Dawn of the Golden Witch





Umineko

WHEN THEY CRY

Episode 6

Dawn of the Golden Witch

2

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11:04 P.M., OCTOBER 4TH



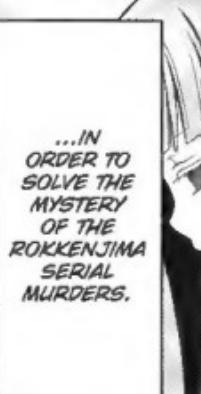


Chapter 9: Opening

キ
カ
ハ
 KYU
OGUNO



キ
カ
ハ
 KATA
CHUNIO



...IN
ORDER TO
SOLVE THE
MYSTERY
OF THE
ROKKENJIMA
SERIAL
MURDERS.

LADY BERN-
KASTEL
SENT ME
INTO THE
PREVIOUS
GAME AS
HER PAWN
AND
DETECTIVE...



キ
カ
ハ
 KYU
OGUNO



WITH THAT
TOOL, I
WAS ABLE
TO PIN
DOWN
NATSUHI
AS THE
CULPRIT.



...THUS
PROVING
THAT WHERE
THE TAPE
HADN'T BEEN
BROKEN.
THE LOCKED
ROOMS HAD
BEEN TRULY
SEALED ALL
ALONG.



I PLACED
TAPE
MARKED
WITH
INTRICATE
PATTERNS
ON THE
WINDOWS
AND
DOORS...

...IN MY
HANDS,
IT CAN BE
A FATAL
WEAPON TO
THE WITCH
SERVING
AS GAME
MASTER.



WHILE
IT
MIGHT
BE
SIMPLE
TAPE...



IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?

DPLANOR.

HE GOT ME.

DAMN THAT BATTLER FOR BEING SO THOROUGH.

YES, TAPE WITH SUCH POOR ADHESION WILL NOT MAKE FOR ADEQUATE PROOF.

PETA COTICO

PETA

...HE DID
THIS TO ALL
THE TAPE ON
THE ISLAND—
IF NOT
EVERYTHING
THAT COULD
SERVE THE
SAME
PURPOSE.

I SUSPECT
THAT WITH HIS
GAME MASTER
POWERS...

I SUPPOSE
BATTLER
ISN'T AS
INCOMPETENT
AS I TOOK
HIM FOR.



SATTA
GLOTTED

170

POPU
(PHOOM)



KOTO
CHAKO





WHY DON'T YOU GO FIND A PLACE TO SMOKE UNTIL THE INCIDENT OF THE FIRST NIGHT BEGINS?

IT'S IN THE NATURE OF A DETECTIVE TO PUFF AWAY AT HER PIPE, WAITING FOR A CASE TO EMERGE.



WELL, I COULD SURE USE A SMOKE.

OH, RIGHT.



IS THAT HOW I LOOK TO YOU?



YOU SEEM TO BE IN LOW SPIRITS.

...I AM A CHILD.

I DO NOT SMOKE.

AAAA
OOHO



LADY ERIKA,
I HAVE A
QUESTION
FOR YOU.



WHAT
IS IT?



DEPENDING
ON WHAT IT
IS, I MIGHT
DEIGN TO
ANSWER IT,
IF ONLY TO
STAVE OFF
BOREDOM.

.....





...DO
YOU HATE
MAGIC SO
MUCH?

WHY...



WHY WAS IT
NECESSARY TO
GO TO SUCH
LENGTHS TO
DESTROY AN
ILLUSION OF
THAT MEAGER
LEVEL?



IT WAS AN
OBVIOUS
SLEIGHT-OF-
HAND TRICK
MEANT TO
FOOL A
CHILD.



THAT
EXCHANGE
WITH LADY
MARIA
EARLIER
...

...BUT I
SENSE
THERE IS A
DIFFERENT
EMOTION
INVOLVED.

YOU DO DERIVE
APPARENT
PLEASURE FROM
EXPOSING THE
TRUTH BEHIND
MAGIC, LADY
ERIKA...

WELL, AS A
SELF-STYLED
INTELLECTUAL
RAPIST, I
CANNOT ABIDE
ANY MAGIC
OBSCURING THE
TRUTH.

SOME-
THING
ELSE...

SOME-
THING
NEGA-
TIVE.





"THE PEOPLE AROUND US ARE JEALOUS AND WILL MAKE UP THINGS TO TEAR US APART. DON'T LISTEN TO THEM."



"I WAS GOING OUT WITH A DIFFERENT GIRL BEFORE, BUT I'VE TOTALLY CUT THINGS OFF WITH HER NOW."



"WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?"



"LET'S FIND OUR HAPPINESS TOGETHER."

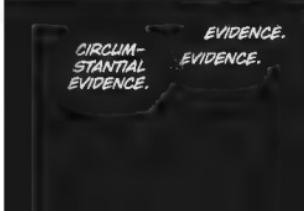
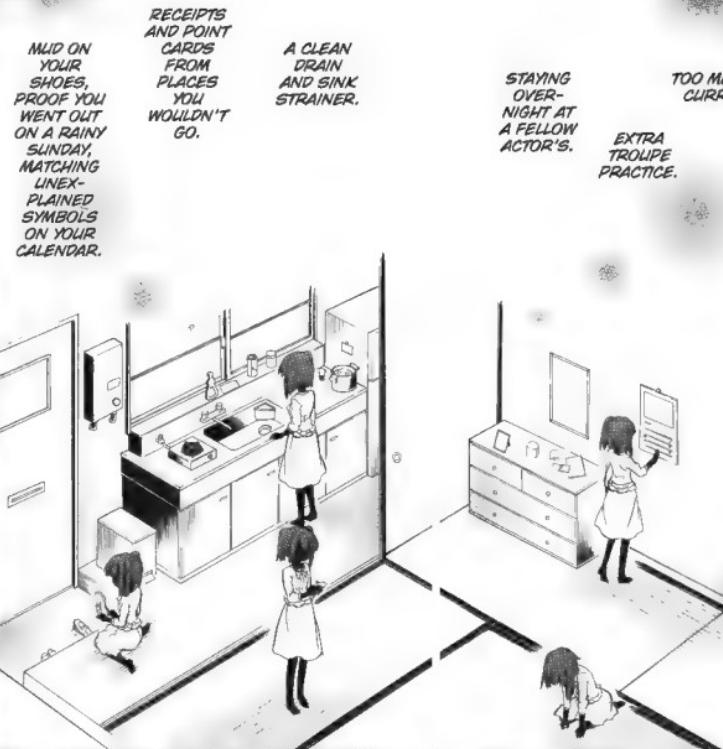
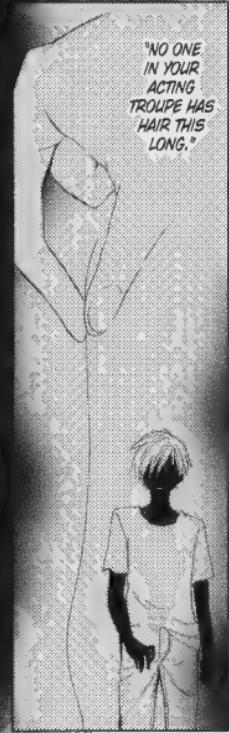
"I PROMISE YOU MY ENTIRE LIFE."



.....?



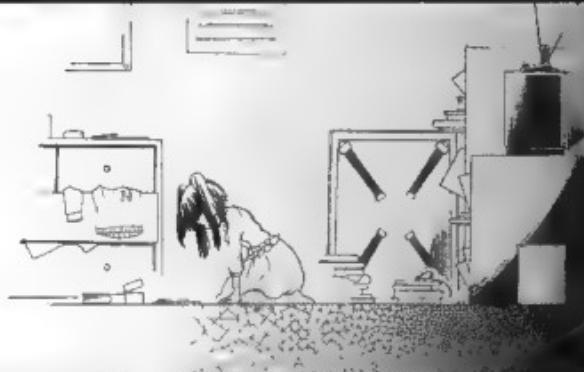
"A NEW WALLET."





I FOUND
LOTS OF
EVIDENCE
THAT I LOVE
YOU AND
THAT YOU
LOVED ME.

BUT I
COULDN'T
FIND THE
EVIDENCE
TO PROVE
YOU
ARE NOT
CHEATING
ON ME.



IF YOU
LOVE ME,
THEN
TRUST
ME!



WHY DOES
THIS HAVE TO
BE A ONE-OR-
THE-OTHER
CHOICE?

AND YOU
KNOW I WANT
TO WORK HARDER
AT MY ACTING.
WHY WOULD
YOU TELL ME TO
QUIT?

AND HOW
CAN I LOVE
SOMEONE
LIKE THAT?

...THEN
THINGS
ARE
PRETTY
MUCH
OVER
BETWEEN
US.

I MEAN,
IF YOU
REALLY
TRUST
ME SO
LITTLE...

I THINK
YOU NEED A
VACATION OR
SOMETHING.

YOU'RE
BEING
WEIRD.

GOD, QUIT
CRYING.

I
DON'T
LOVE
YOU.

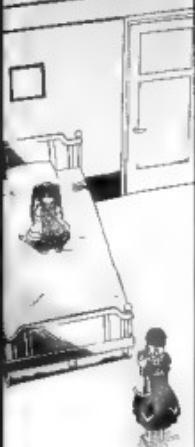
GO HOME,
BITCH.

STAY
AWAY.

YOU
SICKENING
FREAK!
DIE!

STOP THAT
SCREECHING!
YOU'RE
DISTURBING
THE NEIGH-
BORS!

"YOU
CAN'T SEE
THE TRUTH
WITHOUT
LOVE"?



HAH!
JUST
THE
OPPO-
SITE.



DON'T
EVER COME
BACK, YOU
PIG!!



LOVE
CAUSES
YOU TO SEE
THINGS THAT
AREN'T
THERE.

DIANOR...

PLAY A
LITTLE GAME
WITH ME.

OF COURSE,
HE WAS
FAR TOO
ORDINARY
TO KEEP
UP WITH
ME.

IT'S A
GAME
I ONCE
PLAYED
WITH
THAT
MAN.

YES.

...ME?

BUT I THINK
YOU MIGHT
HAVE A MORE
INTERESTING
RESPONSE.





...SO NOW
YOU SHOULD
UNDERSTAND
ALL THE
CIRCUM-
STANCES.

AND
NOW...

YES,
I DO.

AS
THE MAN,
I DEMAND
EVIDENCE
THAT I AM
CHEATING
ON YOU.

MY FIRST
MOVE.

I
OFFER A
REBUTTAL
IN BLUE
TRUTH.

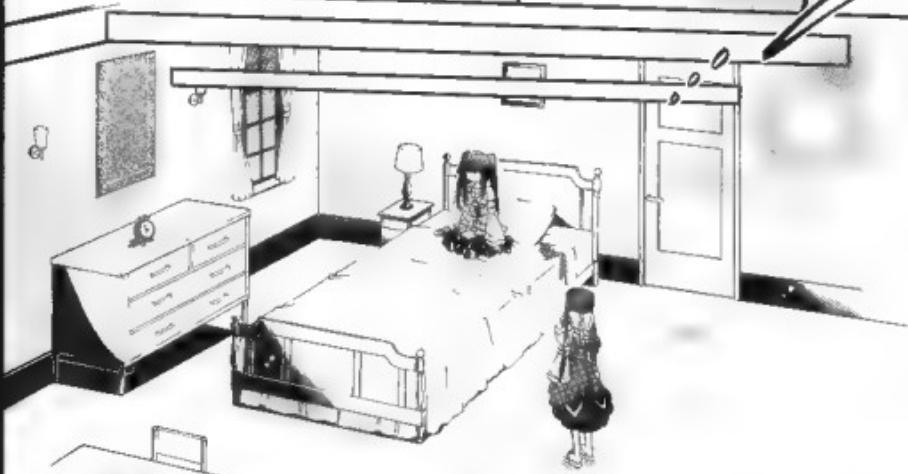
...ALL
INDICATIONS
THAT MY
PARTNER
HAS BEEN
CHEATING —
84 ITEMS
IN ALL!

I PRESENT
CIRCUM-
STANTIAL
AND
PHYSICAL
EVIDENCE...









I WONDER
WHAT
THAT MAN
THOUGHT
OF THIS...

I FOUND
HE DIDN'T
LOVE ME
ANYMORE
AND WAS
CHEATING
ON ME.

IT
IS THE
SAME
THING
THAT
HAPPENED
...

...YOU ARE
AN EXPERT
WIELDER OF
THE BLUE
TRUTH.

...YOU MAY
BE LADY
BERNKASTEL'S
PAWN, BUT
MORE THAN
THAT...

LADY
ERIKA...

AND THE
ONLY ANSWER
TO THE BLUE
TRUTH IS RED
TRUTH.

BUT
THE BLUE
TRUTH IS THE
ONLY THING
A HUMAN IS
ALLOWED
TO USE.

SO HOW
WAS YOUR
OPPONENT
TO PROVIDE
HIS OWN
TRUTH?

...THIS
GAME
WAS
DESIGNED
TO GIVE
LADY
ERIKA THE
VICTORY,
NO
MATTER
WHAT HIS
TRUTH
MIGHT
HAVE
BEEN.

REGARD-
LESS OF
THE REAL
TRUTH...

HE
HAD NO
MOVE TO
PLAY.

WHY
DOESN'T
HE BRING
OUT THAT
GOLDEN TRUTH,
WHICH IS
SUPPOSEDLY
EVEN GREATER
THAN RED
TRUTH AT
TIMES?

WELL
...

KUH!

YOU
CANNOT
USE RED
TRUTH
TO DENY
HIS.

YOU
TOO ARE
HUMAN.

BUT THE
SIX PIECES OF
BLUE TRUTH
EVIDENCE THAT
HE DISPLAYED
TO YOU...

...HAVE
NOT YET
BEEN
DENIED.

YES,
YOU HAVE
WON THIS
GAME.



FOR
SUCH
FALSE-
HOODS
CAUSE
ONLY
CONFU-
SION
AND
SUFFER-
ING.

WITHOUT
LOVE, A
HUMAN
BEING CAN
AVOID SEEING
ANY FALSE
ILLUSIONS.

I GET TO
BE THE
WITCH OF
TRUTH...



I NO
LONGER
HAVE
TO BE
PAINED...

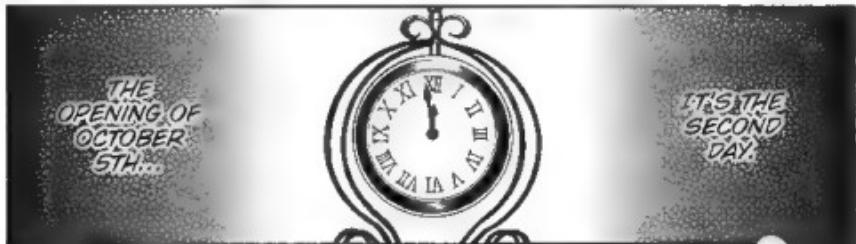
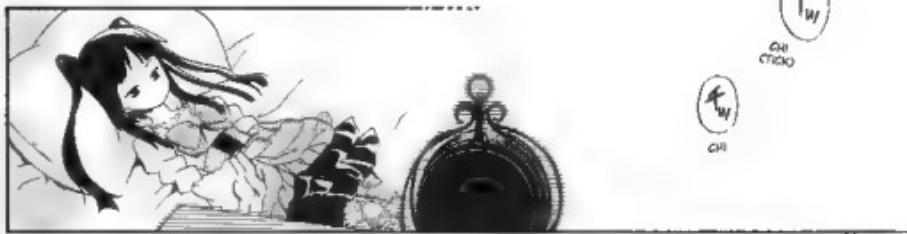
...IF
ONLY
FOR A
TIME...

...BY
NON-RED
WORDS
AS I ONCE
WAS...

I SUPPOSE
I'LL GET
SOME SLEEP.

I AM
HAPPY
NOW.

POSS
CHAMP



MAN
ONLY
HUMAN

...TODAY'S
VICTIMS
LEAVE ME A
PLEASING
VARIETY OF
DYING
MESSAGES!

EH

HEH

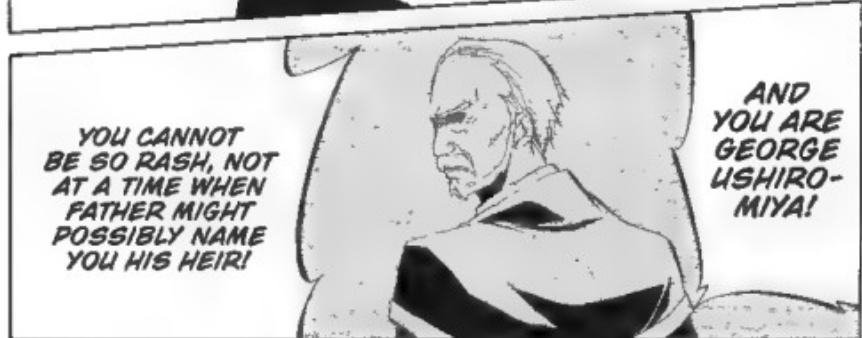
HEH

HEH

HEH







WHY
DIDN'T
YOU ASK
YOUR
MOTHER
FOR
ADVICE!?

IT'S
NOT THE
KIND OF
BATTLE
YOU
WANT TO
REPEAT!

L-LISTEN
TO ME!
DO YOU
KNOW HOW
MUCH YOUR
FATHER
STRUG-
GLED?

I AM HERE
TO ASK YOU
RIGHT NOW.

I HAVE
NO INTEREST
IN BEING
GRANDFATHER'S
HEIR. I WANT
TO CREATE MY
OWN KINGDOM
AND CASTLE,
LIKE DAD.

ACTU-
ALLY
...

...WHAT
I'M DOING
IS JUST
DELIVERING
A REPORT.



...DIDN'T
INCLUDE
THE TINIEST
FRACTION
OF MY OWN
FEELINGS
IN THEIR
CALCULA-
TION!!

MOM,
YOUR
MARRIAGE
ARRANGE-
MENTS...

THAT'S
WHY I'M
PLAYING
"DEVIL'S
ADVOCATE"
AND TRYING
TO HELP YOU
SEE THIS
FOR WHAT
IT IS!

IT'S PLAIN TO
YOUR MOTHER
THAT YOUR YOUTH
IS CAUSING YOU
TO THROW YOUR-
SELF HEADLONG
DOWN THE WRONG
PATH BASED ON
A FLEETING
OBSESSION!

WHY
WOULD YOU
SAY THAT,
GEORGE!?



I SAY THIS BECAUSE YOU ARE MY PRECIOUS ONLY SON!!

I WOULDN'T BE FIGHTING YOU ON THIS IF I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT YOU!

WHEN I
BECOME A
FATHER
AND HAVE
MY OWN
CHILDREN
...

I AM ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR RAISING ME INTO THE MAN I AM TODAY.

MOM.

ONE WHO WOULD WHOLE-HEARTEDLY FIGHT FOR HIS CHILDREN, A PARENT WORTHY OF THEIR RESPECT.



GEORGE

THEN YOU DO UNDERSTAND.



JUST LEAVE EVERYTHING ELSE UP TO YOUR DEAR MOTHER.

DON'T WORRY, I WON'T HAVE SHANNON-CHAN MISTREATED.



HUH?

THAT'S WHY I THINK IT'S FINALLY ABOUT TIME.



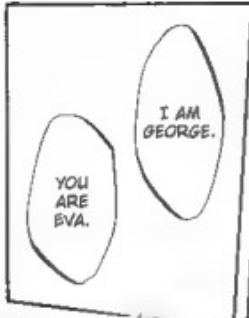
YEAH.

BASHA SPLASH

ABOUT
TIME FOR
YOU TO LET
THE BIRD
LEAVE THE
NEST...

...MOTHER.

GEO...





BECAUSE
I'M NOT
LOOKING AT
MY MOTHER
RIGHT NOW.

...IS A WALL,
A TRIAL
THAT I MUST
OVERCOME
TO SEIZE THE
FUTURE THAT
I DESIRE.

UNDERSTAND?
WHAT I SEE
BEFORE ME...



AND
TODAY IS
THE DAY
I SCALE
THAT
FINAL
WALL!!

THIS IS
AN ACT OF
BRAVERY...

SOMETHING
I CAN
DO TO
SHOW MY
RESOLVE TO
BE WITH
SHANNON!

AS THE PRICE
FOR YOUR LOVE
OF SHANNON,
WHOM CAN YOU
KILL ON THIS
ISLAND!?

TO ENSURE
YOUR LOVE,
YOU MUST
OFFER UP
A LIFE WITH
YOUR OWN
HANDS!

SHURA
CONVICTION

KYODO
CONVICTION





SO
I'LL BE
FRANK
TOO.

SOME-
TIES IT'S
NICE TO
DROP THE
PRETENSE
AND BE
BRUTALLY
HONEST.

YOUR
REBELLION,
YOUR
STRUGGLES,
YOUR AGONIES,
YOUR SELF-
CONTROL...

...ARE ALL
THINGS
I'VE EXPE-
RIENCED
MYSELF!!

YOUR
FUTURE
IS ONLY
JUST BIG
ENOUGH
TO BE
SWAL-
LOWED
INTO MY
OWN
LIFE!

GUN
CLENCH

WHY
DON'T
YOU
GLANCE
DOWN...

...AND
SEE
WHERE
YOU'RE
STAND-
ING!?



...JUST FOR
THE SAKE OF
YOUR OWN
AMBITION?

ARE YOU
GOING TO
TIE ME DOWN
LIKE YOU DID
WHEN I WAS
A BOY...

SO I'M
GOING TO
MAKE IT VERY
CLEAR THAT
THIS IS NOT
THE CASE.

NO,
YOU'RE
WRONG
ABOUT
THAT.



BUN
CUCUMBER

I
WILL
SHOW
YOU!



TEE
HEE!
MY DEAR.

REMEMBER
WHAT
HAPPENED
ON
TUES-DAYS!

KAKA



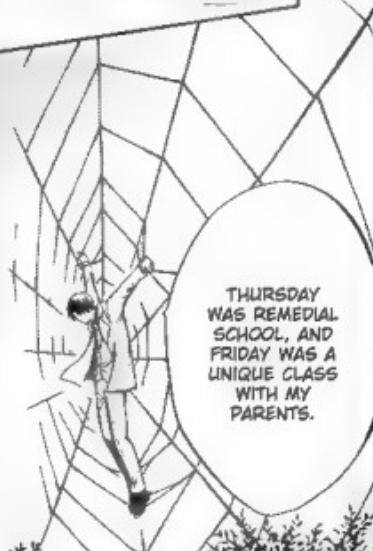
AND
WED-
NES-
DAYS?

BUN
COMMAND

THURS-
DAYS?

FRI-
DAYS?
WHAT
HAP-
PENED
ON
SATUR-
DAYS?

DODD
COMMAND





A CHILD
WILL NOT
GROW
WITHOUT
PARENTAL
SUPERVI-
SION!

BUT I
CAME TO AN
UNDER-
STANDING!

SO
YOU
SEE...

...YOU
DON'T
NEED TO
WORRY
ABOUT
ANY-
THING!

GAGAN
(LIPS)

NO
GRASS
WILL
GROW, NO
FLOWERS
WILL
BLOOM,
WITHOUT
THE SUN!

IF A
CHILD
IS A
SPROUT,
THEN
THE
PARENT
IS THE
SUN!

I WILL HAVE
THE MOST
INTELLECTUAL
AND
SUBSERVIENT
WOMAN
ARRANGED
FOR YOU, MY
DEAR!

MAMA WILL
PREPARE
YOUR EVERY
SUCCESS
AND THE
PATHWAYS
TO BRING
YOU TO
THEM!!

AND IN TIME,
YOU WILL BE
DECLARED
THE HEIR
TO THE
USHIROMIYA
FAMILY!



ONLY
FROM THAT
POINT ON
MAY YOUR
OWN LIFE
BEGIN!!



APOLOGIZE
TO YOUR
MOTHER.

MUGEN
CHAMBER

THAT'S
ENOUGH
PUNISH-
MENT.

DORA
CHAMBER

AREN'T
YOU HAPPY
BEING ABLE
TO FEEL THE
SIZE OF MY
LOVE WITH
ALL OF YOUR
PHYSICAL
BEING LIKE
THIS?



...YES.



...IN
MIND...

EVERY-
THING
...WAS
ALL
WITH MY
SAKE...



THANK
YOU...

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH...

HEH.

MOM...

I FINALLY
UNDERSTAND
TO MY VERY
CORE THE
EFFORT YOU'VE
PUT INTO
RAISING ME TO
BE A GREAT
MAN.

...IS THE
GREATEST
EDUCATION
OF ALL."

"SMOTH-
ERING A
CHILD IN
HAPPI-
NESS..."

AS THE
BRITISH
SAYING
GOES...

THAT'S
RIGHT.



Chapter 10: Absolute Will

SORRY?
YOU
WERE
SAYING
SOMETHING?



*THE "PRETEND YOU
WEREN'T LISTENING" DEFENSE



COURAGE,
CHIVALRY.

AMBITION,
WIT,
HUMOR.

AND JUST
A TOUCH
OF FASHION
SENSE.

IT'S
IRONIC,
REALLY.

GEORGE? G...

NEARLY
EVERY-
THING
THAT YOU
ADMIT
MADE ME
INTO A
GREAT
MAN...

...CAME
FROM
SOMETHING
OTHER
THAN
YOUR
EDUCA-
TION!



YOU CAN'T
STILL BE
GOING
ON ABOUT
THAT!



G-
GEORGE
...



I'LL
STIFLE
YOU IN
THE WOMB
OF MY
SPIDER-
WEB SO I
CAN RAISE
YOU ALL
OVER AGAIN
WITH MY
LOVE!

THEN I
SUPPOSE
I NEED
TO RE-
EDUCATE
YOU FROM
SCRATCH!

GO COONO



HVLI
COMISHO

KURU
COONO



MY
SPIDER-
WEB...



I COULD HAVE
ESCAPED THE
SHACKLES OF
THAT WEB
ANYTIME.

...I WOULD
LET THE PAIN
CANCEL THEM
ALL OUT.

BUT I
DECIDED THAT
FOR EACH
AND EVERY
BLESSING YOU
GAVE ME...

...YOU
REALLY
DO NEED
TO KNOW
WHEN TO
LET GO,
MOM.

I THINK
...

THANKS TO
THAT ATTITUDE
OF YOURS, I'M
MORE THAN
READY TO LEAVE
THE NEST.

THAT'S
AN AWFULLY
SAL-CY
COMMENT
FROM A BOY
STILL IN MY
WOMB.
W-
WELL
OO







...NEED
TO SAY
FARE-
WELL
TO MY
CHILD-
HOOD!!



GA
ONWARD

GA
ONWARD

GEORGE!!

GOOD-
BYE,
MOM.



YU
X

IF THERE'S
ONE OF YOUR
TEACHINGS
I'M GRATEFUL
FOR...

...IT'S
LEARNING
MANY
TYPES OF
MARTIAL
ARTS.

GREAT
DEMON
GAAP.

ARE
YOU OVER
THERE
SOME-
WHERE?

DAIWA
CYCLOPS

t"



SO
YOU
WON'T
LISTEN
TO
ME?



...BUT I
LOVE THE
POWERFUL
ONES EVEN
MORE.

I DO
LOVE A
HAND-
SOME
MAN...

NO
PERO
CUCIO

GIVE
ME YOUR
ORDERS.

SUTA
CUCIO

ZO
CUCIO

FIND A
SUITABLE
RESTING
PLACE
FOR HER
REMAINS.

SHE
LIVED ON
DREAMS
AND
AMBI-
TIONS...

...OF
LEADING
THE
USHI-
ROMIYA
FAMILY.

THEN
HERE
IS MY
COM-
MAND.

GRAND-
FATHER'S
STUDY...

NO, THE
SEALED-OFF
V.I.P. ROOM ON
THE SECOND
FLOOR OF THE
MANSION.

PASHA
COPUSIO
1/2

YOUR
DEMONIC
MAJESTY.

Y3!

TOPUN
GOOSO



RIGHT AWAY,
YOUR
MAJESTY.



W



KARAN
COLUNO

THAT IS
THE ONE-
WINGED
STAFF...



...THAT
DENOTES THE
HEAD OF
USHIROMIYA.

POOM
BOOM

I'VE
FULFILLED
MY
QUOTA.

ADMIRABLY
DONE,
GEORGE
USHIRO-
MIYA!

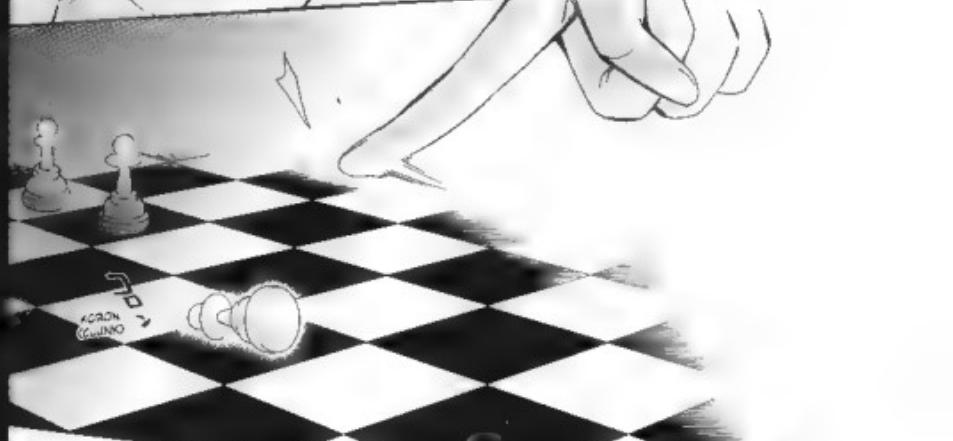
GUY
(SWEET)

I NOW
GIVE WAY
TO THE
NEXT CON-
TESTANT.

WELL
DONE!

YOUR
WILL AND
DEDICA-
TION IS
TRUE!





BUT IN THE DEMONS' TEA PARLOR, WHERE WE MERELY CROWD AROUND THE BOARD, HE ONLY DISPLAYED HIS DESIRE TO SURPASS HIS PARENTS BY MOVING PAWNS.



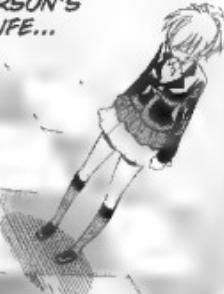
TO HUMANS, FOR WHOM THE GAME BOARD IS THEIR ONE AND ONLY WORLD, THIS IS A HORRIFIC ACT OF MATRICIDE.

...CAN WE TRULY STATE THAT THIS IS JUST A DEMON'S GAME?

STILL...



...I STILL CANNOT TAKE A PERSON'S LIFE...



...ON ONE OUT OF AN INFINITE NUMBER OF FRAGMENT WORLDS...

EVEN IF I AM JUST A PAWN ON A GAME BOARD...

IT MEANS
LEAVING
THE HOME.

...AND
THE LAST
YOU
SHOULD
PART WITH.

YOUR
MOTHER IS
THE FIRST
PERSON IN
THE WORLD
TO LOVE
YOU...

JESSICA-
CHAN.

AND THIS
IS AN ACT OF
COURAGE, TO
SHOW THAT I
AM CAPABLE
OF MARRYING
SAYO.

GEORGE-
SAMA.

WHO
WILL
TACKLE
THE
TRIAL
NEXT!?

SO!



WHAT...

...SHOULD
I DO?



WILL
I KILL
SOME-
ONE...

...LIKE
GEORGE-
NIISAN?



FOR
UNLOCKING
THE DOOR
TO A
FULFILLING
LOVE WITH
YOUR
BELOVED—

IN THAT
CASE,
CON-
GRATU-
LATIONS,
GEORGE
USHI-
ROMIYA!

...THEN
I AM
THE
WINNER,
CORRECT?

IF
NO ONE
ELSE
ELECTS
TO GO...

W
A
I
T!

NEXT

...

...IS
ME.

JUST
THINKING
ABOUT
IT WON'T
OPEN
THE WAY
FOR ME.

W-

JESSICA-
SAN...







KURE
SPINO

WHAT IS IT,
JESSICA-
CHAN?

OH.

ERM, I...
I CAME BACK
TO GET A
BOOK FROM
MY ROOM.

I THOUGHT
YOU WENT
BACK TO
THE GUEST-
HOUSE.

...OH.

...AH.

THAT WAS NO!
MY BIG
CHANCE...





IF WE WIN,
THEN THE
OTHERS
WILL FALL
APART.

AND VICE
VERSA.

YES. AND
ONLY THE
WINNING PAIR
GET TO BE
TOGETHER.

THIS
SOUNDS
COMPLI-
CATED.

MY,
MY.

IS
THAT
RIGHT
?

...HOW
MUCH
ARE YOU
ALLOWED
TO USE
OTHERS
AS A
STEPPING-
STONE?

SO YOU'RE
WONDERING,
IN ORDER TO
BE HAPPY
YOURSELF...

...WELL
...

SO ARE
YOU JUST
GOING TO...
GIVE UP
ON YOUR
PARTNER?



YES.

...IS
REALLY
PAIN-
FUL.

BUT
TRAMPLING
ALL OVER
SOMEONE
ELSE IN
ORDER FOR
US TO BE
HAPPY
TOGETHER...

I'LL
BE VERY
HONEST
WITH YOU.

AUNT
KYRIE
...?



PARA
(PUB)

110
7



...UNTIL
THE DAY
YOU DIE.

CHOOSING
THAT WILL
BE MUCH
MORE
PAINFUL.
YOU WILL
CRAWL
THROUGH
A LIVING
HELL...

BEST
COODOO





I WAS
ONLY SIX
AT THE TIME,
SO I DIDN'T
UNDERSTAND
IT. NOW THAT
I'M OLDER,
I DO.



THERE WAS
A NOTEBOOK
FROM MOTHER
AMONG HER
BELONGINGS.



IT WAS A
BOOK OF
CURSES
THAT SHE
KEPT.



YES.



A
RECORD OF
ALL OF HER
TROUBLES
AND
UNHAPPINESS
IN
MARRIAGE.
I
SEE.

MY FATHER RUDOLF WAS
ESSENTIALLY A PLAYBOY.

HE MUST HAVE
KNOWN EXACTLY
HOW TO DRAW A
WOMAN'S AFFECTION.

HE WAS BOLD AND UNPREDICTABLE, BUT ALSO KIND TO WOMEN.

MY MOTHER,
KYRIE,
WAS ONE OF THEM.

...WON OVER
MANY WOMEN,
INDEED.

AND HIS
CHARISMATIC,
CREATIVE
PROJECT
PROPOSALS,
HEFTY
WALLET, AND
GENEROUS
NATURE...



...WHEREAS
ONLY MY
MOTHER HAD
THE SHARP
FINANCIAL
SKILLS TO
ACT AS HIS
RIGHT-HAND
WOMAN,
CRAFTILY
KEEPING
THE OTHER
CANDIDATES
AT BAY.



...WAS
THAT SHE
SUPPORTED
HIM AS A
BUSINESS
PARTNER.

BUT THE
ONE BIG
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN
HER AND
THE OTHER
WOMEN...

WHEN HE
MADE PILES
OF CASH
THROUGH
QUESTIONABLE
METHODS,
THE OTHER
WOMEN
ONLY KNEW
HOW TO
SPEND IT...



AND
WHEN DID
BATTLER'S
MOTHER,
ASUMI,
ENTER THE
PICTURE?



JUST A
MERE FAN, IF
ANYTHING.



SHE
WAS ONE
OF RUDOLF-
SAN'S
ADMIRERS.

OF COURSE.
I KNEW HER
BEFORE
RUDOLF-SAN
EVEN KNEW
THE NAME
"ASLIMU."

HAD YOU
SPOKEN
TO HER?

SHE
MUST
HAVE
BEEN
VERY
SMART.

...STOOD
OUT TO
RUDOLF-
SAN, WHO
WAS
GROWING
TIRED OF
THE OTHER
GAUDY
WOMEN.

BUT
SHE
DID THE
OPPOSITE.

I
TRIED TO
SHINE
THROUGH
MY
INTELLI-
GENCE.



...BY ACTING DUMB?



AND WITHOUT REALIZING WHAT I WAS DOING, I ALLOWED ASUMU-SAN TO GET CLOSER TO HIM.



YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT.

AND...THAT'S
HOW UNCLE
RUDOLF
AND AUNT
ASUMU GOT
MARRIED?

BUT DUE TO
MY MENSTRUAL
IRREGULARITIES,
I DIDN'T
REALIZE I WAS
ACTUALLY
PREGNANT UNTIL
AFTER THEY'D
ARRANGED A
SHOTGUN
WEDDING.

ASUMU-
SAN TOLD
HIM ABOUT
IT IMMEDI-
ATELY...

SOON, THE
BOTH OF
US WERE
PREGNANT.

SHE STOLE
HIM RIGHT
OUT FROM
UNDER ME.

I TOLD
ASUMU-SAN
ABOUT MY
PREGNANCY,
HOPING TO
RATTLE HER...

BUT I
COULDN'T
JUST
GIVE UP
ON HIM.

PLEASE
LEAVE.

AND
WHAT IS
YOUR
POINT?

...SHE
WAS THE
TRULY
CRAFTY
ONE.

THAT'S
WHEN I
UNDER-
STOOD...

THAT'S
WHAT I
BELIEVED.

I AT LEAST
WANTED HIM TO
ACKNOWLEDGE
MY BABY.

IF RUDOLF-
SAN SAW THE
VALUE OF THE
EXCELLENCE OF
MY BABY OVER
ASUMI-SAN'S,
I WOULD BE
REDEEMED.



BUT KYRIE'S
BABY WAS
STILLBORN.



...TO A
PLAIN OLD
LOVER WHO
COULDN'T
GIVE HIM A
CHILD.

MOM
WENT FROM
PARTNER
TO SECOND
WIFE...

AND
ASUMI-SAN
GAVE BIRTH
TO ONIICHAN.

YES.



I
IMAGINE
SO.

SHE MUST
HAVE HATED
ASUMI AND
BATTLER.





BUT
UNLESS
YOU WATER,
CARE FOR,
AND
FINALLY
HARVEST
THE
RIPENED
FRUIT OF
LOVE...

THEY
SAY YOU
RAISE
AND
NURTURE
LOVE.

...THAT
LOVE IS NOT
FULFILLED.

BUT
LOVE IS
UNFULFILLED
UNLESS YOU
HARVEST
IT.

THINK
ABOUT
THAT ONE
ON YOUR
OWN.

JESSICA-
CHAN.

HAR-
VEST
...?

KOTSU
KOTEL

RODOLFO TORO

...THEN YOU WILL REGRET IT...

IF IT ROTS BECAUSE OF YOUR OWN MISTAKE OR A THIEF COMES ALONG AND TAKES IT...

THE ARROGANCE THAT I WAS COMPLETELY SAFE BECAUSE RUDOLF-SAN BELONGED TO ME.

I HAVE ONLY ONE REGRET.

SO I WON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE ABOUT MYSELF AGAIN.

I SHOW
NO MERCY
TO HIS
ENEMIES.

SO NOW,
I WILL DO
ANYTHING
NECESSARY
TO KEEP
RUDOLF-SAN
CHAINED
TO ME.

I
WON'T
LET
GO OF
HIM.
HE
WILL
NEVER
ESCAPE
AGAIN.

HE IS
MINE.

IF HE
WANTED IT,
I WOULD
NOT EVEN
HESITATE
TO COMMIT
MURDER
FOR HIM!

BECAUSE OF
THAT DETER-
MINATION AND
WILLPOWER,
MY LIVING HELL
OF REGRET
ENDED
AFTER JUST
EIGHTEEN
YEARS.

I WAS
BLISS-
FUL.





IF SHE
HADN'T
DIED, I
WOULD
HAVE
KILLED
HER
MYSELF.



...SHE WAS
ALWAYS
FATED TO
DIE.

MEAN-
ING...

...AND I
DIDN'T
HAVE TO
GET MY
HANDS
DIRTY.

THE
MIRACLE
WAS
THAT
SHE
LIVED
AND
DIED...

THAT'S
ALL IT
CAME
DOWN
TO.



...NEEDED
FOR LOVE TO
BLOSSOM!?

IS THIS THE
ABSOLUTE
DISPLAY OF
WILL...

THIS IS THE
KIND OF WILL
AUNT KYRIE
POSSESSED
EVEN BEFORE SHE
BECAME UNCLE
RUDOLF'S WIFE?

I ONLY
MEANT TO
SHOW THE
IMPORTANCE
OF MY
DETERMINA-
TION, BUT I
WENT OVER-
BOARD.

IT MUST
BE THIS
WEATHER.



THAT'S
RIGHT.

NNAO
GEORGE

.....

I MEANT
TO GIVE YOU
ADVICE, BUT
IT SEEMS I'VE
FRIGHTENED
YOU INSTEAD.

OH, I'M
SORRY.

...GET
IT.
I
FINALLY...

THIS IS
JUST LIKE
GEORGE-
NIISAN.



...BOLDLY
AND CRUELLY
COMPLETED
THE DEMONS'
TRIAL. HE HAD
THE WILL
NECESSARY
TO REACH
THAT POINT...

GEORGE-
NIISAN...

AND
ALL THAT
STAYS
BETWEEN
US GIRLS,
UNDER-
STAND?
HEE-HEE-
HEE.

WELL.
I
SHOULD
BE
GETTING
BACK
NOW.

...WHAT
ABOUT
ME?

THEN...

KOTOMI
CHOKO

IT
SOUNDS LIKE
A HANDFUL,
BUT DON'T
GIVE UP ON
YOUR LOVE.

GOOD
LUCK,
JESSICA-
CHAN.

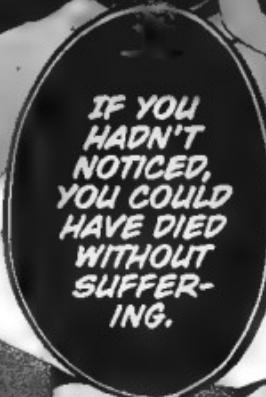
...TO HELP
MY LOVE
WITH KANON-
KUN BEAR
FRUIT AND
GO THROUGH
WITH THE
TASK OF
HARVESTING
IT?

DO I
REALLY
HAVE THE
COMMIT-
MENT...

WHAT
IS IT,
JESSICA-
CHA—

HMM?





IF YOU
HADN'T
NOTICED,
YOU COULD
HAVE DIED
WITHOUT
SUFFER-
ING.

JES-
SICA-
CHAN
...!?

WHAT A
SHAME.

JUST SO
YOU KNOW, I
DIDN'T TRY TO
SUCKER PUNCH
YOU BECAUSE
I'M A DIRTY
COWARD.

Chapter 11: The Hell of Love

I WANTED
TO END IT IN
AN INSTANT
BEFORE YOU
KNEW WHAT
WAS GOING
ON.



LIED?

I
CONSIDERED
THIS FROM
THE FIRST
MOMENT
YOU LIED.

PHEW...

AAA
CELESTINE

...I
WOULDN'T
HAVE MET YOU
COMING IN THIS
DIRECTION,
WOULD I?

IF YOU
WERE
GOING
TO YOUR
ROOM
FOR A
BOOK...

BUT...
WHY
ME?

...WAS
THAT YOU
WOULD
ATTEMPT
TO KILL
ME.

USING
CHESS-
BOARD
LOGIC TO
WEIGH THE
NECESSITY
OF YOUR
LIE, THE
WORST
POTENTIAL
OUTCOME...

PACHIN
(SWAP)

I COULD
HAVE KILLED
ANYONE.

I
SEE...

THIS
REALLY
IS NO
GOOD AT
ALL.

WELL... I'M
GRATEFUL.

THANKS
TO YOU,
AUNT
KYRIE, I
WAS ABLE
TO GET
OVER
MYSELF
....!



IT'S
TOO
BAD
THAT'S
THE
BEST
YOU
CAN...







AS YOU
COMMAND,
MISTRESS.

RONOVE.

ONE OF THE 72
GREAT DEMONS,
BEATRICE'S HEAD
FURNITURE

BACHU
CHAMO







AKH?

KUHH...

AT YOUR
SERVICE!

LEVIATHAN
THE ENVIOUS,
OF THE SEVEN
SISTERS OF
PURGATORY.

FLOOR



...THEN I
SHOULD BE
ABLE TO USE
A FRIEND
WHO ALWAYS
APPEARS IN
MY NIGHT-
MARES.



LEVIATHAN
IS A VERY
GOOD
FRIEND
FROM THE
HELL OF
ENVY.

HUH?

IT'S TOO
EARLY
FOR
THANKS!
SHE'S
HANGING
IN
THERE!

THAT
WAS A
VERY
CLOSE
ONE.

THANK
YOU.

AH!

IT
CAN'T
BE...

SHE'S
CAUTER-
IZING
THE
WOUND
WITH
FIRE!?



METAL
DEFENSE.

ATTACK-
RESPONSE
ARMOR
ADDED.

ARMOR
ADDED.

**WHAT
...!?**

**SHE'S
A MON-
STER!
WE
CAN'T
BEAT
HER!!**

**SHE'S
NOT
HUMAN
NOW! I
CAN'T
STOP
HER!**

**KYRIE,
SHE HAS A
CONTRACT
WITH ONE
OF THE
GREAT
DEMONS!**

RONOVE-SAMA
MADE THIS
BARRIER,
AND HE
TOO IS
A GREAT
DEMON.

LEVIA-THAN!

CAN YOU
BREAK
THIS RED
MAGIC
WALL?

THERE
IS NO
ES-
CAPE!
I
CAN'T
MAN-
AGE
THIS!

CAN'T
WE GO
INTO
THAT
ROOM?





**ALL
RIGHT!**

IT
WOULD
BE A
LOCKED
ROOM—
OUR
COFFIN!

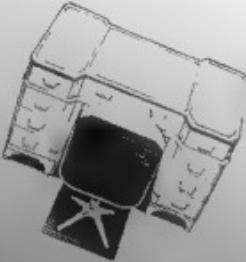
**...BUT THE
WINDOWS
INSIDE ARE
ALREADY
SEALED!**

UNDO
THE
LOCK!





H-HEY!
KYRIE!





YOU'VE
JUST PUT
THE LID ON
YOUR OWN
COFFIN!



BUT IF SHE
WANTS TO PUT
AN END TO US
IN OUR COFFIN,
SHE'LL HAVE
TO OPEN THE
LID FIRST!

WHY WILL
THIS TINY
ROOM
PROTECT
HER...?

WHAT'S SHE
SAYING?



トマ
SU
COMICS



K-
KYRIE!!

I
WOULD
LOVE
TO SEE
YOU
TRY!!

GOOD-
BYE,
AUNT
KYRIE
!!

BOOOO
OWWWWW



MY
SPEED
DROPPED
...?

BUT I
AUGMENTED
IT WITH SO
MUCH MAGIC...
WHY...?

KOTOBUKI
CHIUNICO



...AND
LEAD A
PURE,
BEAUTIFUL
LIFE.

YOU
WILL TAKE
MY ADVICE,
FULFILL
YOUR
LOVE...

ENVI-
OUS?

I CRAWLED
THROUGH
HELL DURING
THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL
TIME OF A
WOMAN'S
LIFE, AND
YOU'LL GET
EIGHTEEN
MORE
YEARS OF
BLISS
THAN I
DID!

...!?

YES,
HOW
VERY
ENVI-
OUS I
AM!

...WILL NEVER
MATCH UP TO
MY DENSE
EIGHTEEN
YEARS OF
ENVY!!

THE
TIME YOU
SPENT
JEALOUS
OF
GEORGE-
KUN AND
SHANNON-
CHAN...

...IT WILL
NEVER
SURPASS
THE
SPEED
OF A
CHILD'S
GAIT
IN MY
WORLD!

NO
MATTER
YOUR
MAGIC
AUGME-
NATION
AND
SUPER-
SONIC
FIST...

NO, THAT ENVY
ONLY CAME
AFTER TALKING
TO SHANNON,
ABOUT THREE
DAYS A WEEK,
FOR AN HOUR
AFTERWARD...

17,520 X
3/7 X 1/24 =
ABOUT 300
HOURS.

COMPARED
TO THAT,
AUNT KYRIE'S
PERIOD OF
JEALOUSY WAS
 $365 \times 18 \times 24 =$
157,680 HOURS.

AND I SPENT
ABOUT TWO
YEARS OF ENVY
TO GAIN THAT
SPEED.
($365 \times 2 \times 24 =$
17,520 HRS).

MY IRON FIST
TRAVELS
AT 1,225
KILOMETERS
AN HOUR,
THE SPEED
OF SOUND.

I
SEE...

THAT MEANS I HAVE ONLY 0.2% OF AUNT KYRIE'S JEALOUSY.

1/500TH THE SPEED OF 1,225 KM/H IS JUST 2.45 KM/H!!

YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH LOVE OR ENVY!

YOU CAN KNOCK ON THE DOOR ALL YOU LIKE, BUT YOU CANNOT LAY A FINGER ON US INSIDE!

SEE? IT'S SEALED, ISN'T IT?

GU CLENCHO

....!!



WE WILL
NOT BREAK
THROUGH
THIS DOOR
UNLESS YOU
UNDERSTAND
TRUE MAGIC,
JESSICA-
SAMA.

ONLY MAGIC
CAN COMMIT A
SEALED-ROOM
MURDER...A
HUMAN CANNOT
DO IT.

BEATRICE'S
DEFINITION OF A
SEALED ROOM...
THIS WILL
BE A VERY
TROUBLESOME
ONE NOW.



JESSICA-
CHAN IS
INCAPABLE
OF
CORNERSING
ME NOW!

THAT'S
RIGHT!

...THEY
WILL
OBSERVE
THIS
NIGHT-
MARE,
AND YOU
WILL DIS-
APPEAR!

BECUSE
WHEN THE
REST OF THE
FAMILY COMES
SEARCHING
FOR ME
WHEN I DON'T
RETURN...

S H :

S H I T !

OH?

YES!
AND AFTER
WE BLESSED
HER SO
THAT SHE
WOULD BE
IMMORTAL!

PLEASE
TRY
HARDER,
FOR THE
SAKE
OF YOUR
DEAR
KANON!

I'M
SURPRISED
THAT
JESSICA IS
DROPPING
OUT SO
SOON!

BELIEVE
IN LOVE
AND
SHOW
US A
MIRACLE
!!

...I
TAKE IT
BACK.

GO
ON,
JES-
SICA!

BECUSE
I CAN
JUST CALL
SOMEONE
USING THIS
PHONE!

THERE'S
NO NEED
TO WAIT
FOR THE
PASSAGE
OF TIME!

THAT'S
THE
SPIRIT,
KYRIE!!

CHECK-
MATE!!

THIS
!!

IS
MY!!

GA
GRAND

GA
OVS
GRANNY



...ESTAB-
LISHED.

SEALED-
ROOM
MURDER...



AH,
A VALID
MOVE





IF
YOU THINK
BACK SO
FONDLY ON
THE HELL OF
ENVY, THEN
BURN
IN IT.

BURN FOR
ETERNITY
IN THE
FLAMES OF
JEALOUSY.

AND IT'S
NOT AN
OBLIGA-
TION.

YOU
CAN LEARN
THINGS
FROM ENVY,
BUT IT'S
NOT SOME-
THING TO BE
PROUD OF.

YOU WERE
ARROGANT
AFTER ALL...

...AUNT
KYRIE...



A BRILLIANT
LOCKED-ROOM
MURDER,
MISTRESS.



UNDER-
STOOD.

I'D
FEEL BAD
ABOUT THE
BODY BEING
BURNED TO A
CRISP. MAKE
HER PRETTY
AGAIN.

YOU
CLEAN
UP THE
REST.



力
力

YOUR
LOVE
IS THE
REAL
THING!

YES,
JESSICA,
IT WAS
BRIL-
LIANT!

ARE YOU
HAPPY,
YOU
DEMONS?

DACO
JAP
110
DACO
4



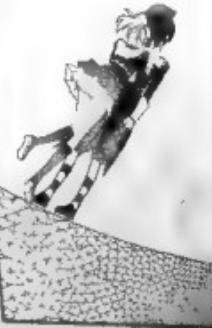
I
DIDN'T
DO THE
WRONG
THING
...!?

I...
I MADE
THE
RIGHT
CHOICE,
RIGHT?

A
U
W
A

SO...
I
SHOWED
MY
FEELINGS
FOR
YOU!

I
WON'T
GIVE
UP ON
YOU.



MISTRESS
...

KA-
NON-
KUN...

AA

WHO WILL ATTEMPT IT NEXT!?

OR PERHAPS SHANNON WILL TRY HER HAND!

A

THAT COMPLETES THE TRIAL FOR TWO CONTESTANTS!

BAN CROOM

A

WILL IT BE BEATRICE-SAMA?

**WHO WILL
COMMIT
THE NEXT
MURDER
OF
LOVE...!?**

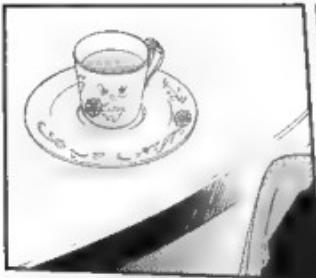
**SURELY
THIS IS
KANON'S
CHANCE!**

NO!



**STEP
RIGHT
UP AND
GIVE IT A
SHOT!**







...BUT NOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS.

IT WAS THE BEST THING I COULD DO TO SUPPORT HIS WORK AND SHOW HIM HOW I FELT...



EVEN IF I PAY OFF HIS DEBT AND HE FINALLY CALLS ME...





I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND
WHAT
YOU
MEAN.

THIS IS
SLIDDEN.

YOU ARE
SUFFER-
ING NOW
BECAUSE
OF LOVE.

AM I
WRONG?

OH, YOU
NAUGHTY BOY.
YOU MUST
HAVE HEARD
KRAUSS-NIISAN
TALKING
ABOUT IT.

...AND
YOU
ACCEPT-
ED.

YOU WERE
ASKED TO
COSIGN
ON MARIA-
SAMA'S
FATHER'S
DEBT...

YOU
CANNOT FAIL
TO UNDER-
STAND THE
MEANING
OF CO-
SIGNING.

YOU ARE
A VERY
WISE
PERSON,
ROSA-
SAMA.

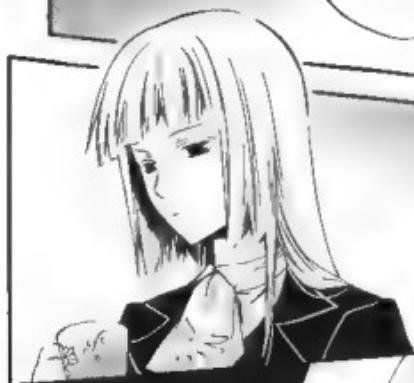
...BUT
IF THE
PARTNER I
WAS GOING
TO MARRY
COULDN'T BORROW
THAT
MONEY
WITHOUT
MY NAME...



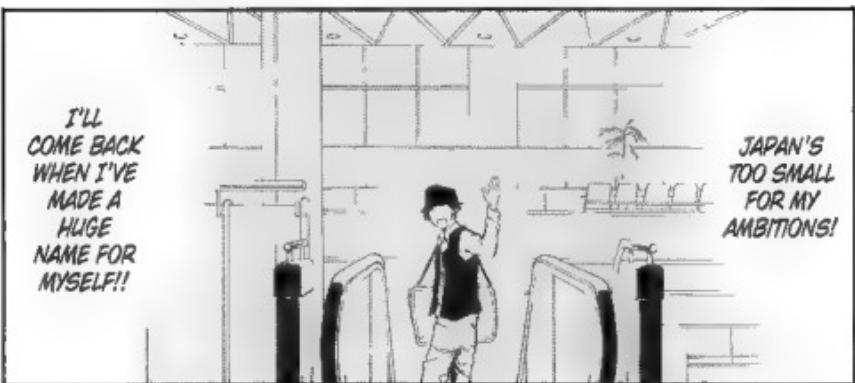
WE
WEREN'T
MARRIED
YET...



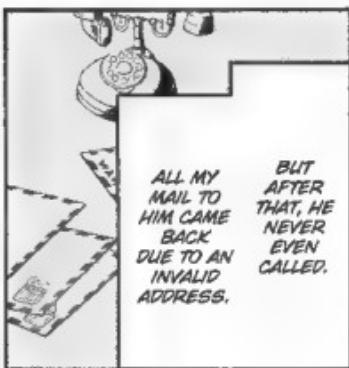
...AND
DID THAT
FUTURE
COME?



THE
FUTURE
DID NOT
COME.



SO I AM ALWAYS AND FOREVER ALONE.



BUT
AS TIME
PASSES,
THE
PRODUCT
OF OUR
LOVE
GROWS
LARGER
AND
LARGER...

SHE IS LIKE
A LIVING
HOURGLASS,
MEASURING
THE TIME I'VE
SPENT
CRAWLING
THROUGH
THIS HELL.

...PAINFUL
TO ME.

SIGN: CHITOSE
MARIA'S
GROWTH
IS...

AND I
STILL THINK
THAT IF I
SOMEHOW PAY
IT OFF, I'LL
BE ABLE TO
WIN HIS LOVE
BACK.

BUT
FORGETTING
WON'T MAKE
THE DEBT GO
AWAY.

IT'S
IRONIC.

I'VE TRIED
TO FORGET
HIM,
OVER AND
OVER.

...YOU
REGRET
THIS.

SO...

...I
DO.

YES...

AND THIS
PAIN WILL
LAST UNTIL
THE DAY
I PAY
OFF THE
DEBT AND
FINALLY
PUT
AN END
TO MY
FEELINGS
...

IN THE
END, I'M
UNABLE
TO GET
OVER MY
LONGING.
I FIXATE
ON THE
PAST.

THE
FANTASY
OF THE
"GOOD
WOMAN"
WAITING
FAITHFULLY
WITH HER
DAUGHTER
FOR HIM
TO COME HOME.

...AND
IDEALIZED
MY
DEFEAT,
INTOXI-
CATED
BY THE
FANTASY...

BUT I
ABAN-
DONED
THE
RIGHT
MOMENT
TO
FIGHT...

IF I'D
CRIED AND
BEGGED
HIM NOT TO
GO, MAYBE
THINGS
WOULD BE
DIFFERENT
NOW.

YOU
HAVE TO
FIGHT FOR
LOVE...
OR BE
FORCED
TO
ENDURE
HELL.
THEN...

...SOMEONE
WOULD
KILL ME...

I
WISH...

AND THIS
IS A HELL,
WHERE I WILL
REGRET THAT
I DID NOT
FIGHT AT THE
RIGHT MOMENT
UNTIL THE
DAY I DIE.

I'VE EVEN
DRAGGED
MY
DAUGHTER
INTO THAT
HELL.

WIN
AND
GAIN
IT, OR
LOSE
AND
DIE!

YES!
LOVE IS
SOMETHING
YOU
FIGHT
FOR!

I WISH
SOMEONE
WOULD
INFORM ME
THAT I'M
ALREADY A
GHOST, A
VICTIM OF
MURDER...

I AM A
GHOST.

A GHOST
WHO WAITS
ETERNALLY
FOR SOME-
ONE WHO
WILL NEVER
RETURN.

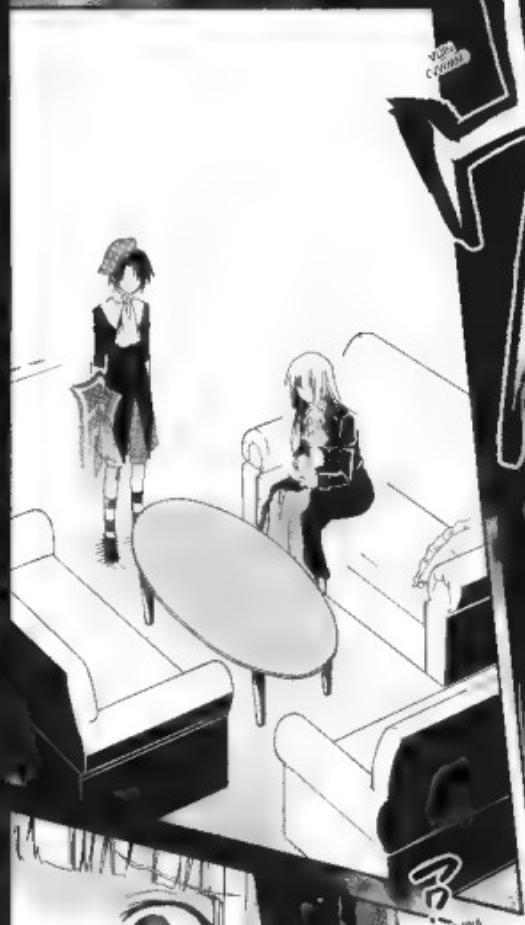




ROSA'S
HELL IS
THE FATE
OF THOSE
WITHOUT THE
COURAGE TO
BLOOM THE
SEED OF
LOVE, WHO
LET IT
ROT!

SEE THIS
THROUGH,
YOU WHO
MAKE
LIGHT OF
LOVE!

THAT
SUFFERING
CANNOT BE
ENDED BY
THEIR OWN
HANDS.



THIS
BEAUTIFUL,
RED ROSE...
PETAL...



PLEASE
PARDON
ME.

H.9
POTA
(DROP)

?

OH.
WHERE
DID THIS
COME
FROM?

REST
IN PEACE,
ROSA-
SAMA.

YOUR
HELL HAS
JUST
COME TO
AN END.

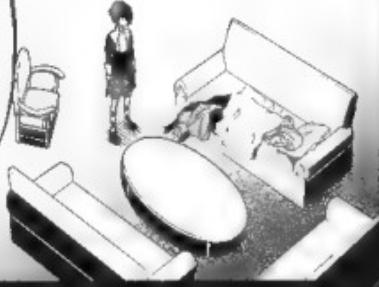
FUNA
CHIHIRO

DOSA
CHIHIRO

“
+
”

THAT
COMPLETES
MY
QUOTA.

DID YOU
SEE ALL
OF THAT,
YOU
DEMONS?





KILL MAMAAA?

HOW!
DARE!
YOU!

OH
NO!!

Chapter 12: Two in One





I DON'T
LIKE KILLING
BEYOND MY
QUOTA.

100

KWORD
CLOUDS

100

100
BURN
CLOUD

BUT...

...I
MUST
SNUFF
OUT THE
SPARKS
OF
DISAS-
TER!

GOOD
ONHOOOT





DIPLOMATIC
PRIVILEGES!
YOU ARE NOT
ALLOWED
TO TARGET
EITHER ME
OR MARIA!

ENHAMA
OZSHISHO

!?



OH NO,
IT'S
VANISH-
ING...

SHALALA

BUN
OYOGO

KUHLI







SHANNON!
DON'T
INTERFERE
!!

IT'S
POINTLESS,
SHANNON!
NO ONE
CAN LOCK
ON TO
MARIA!

THAT MAY
BE, BUT I WILL
NOT BE SO
BOORISH AS TO
SET MY SIGHTS
ON YOU.

PARDON
ME,
MARIA-
SAMA.

IN
CONTRACT
WITH ZEPAR-
SAMA AND
FURFUR-SAMA,
I WILL BE
TAKING YOUR
LIFE.



....

BE
STRONG
AND
BOLD!

ARE YOU
GOING TO
LET YOUR
FEELINGS
FOR THE
MISTRESS
WITHER
AWAY
HERE?

ぐぐ

GUGU
(PRESS)

ぐぐぐ

Y-
YEAH...
YOU'RE...
RIGHT.

GUSA

ぐぐぐ

THERE'S
NO...
ESCAPE...

MARIA

IT'S NO
GOOD...

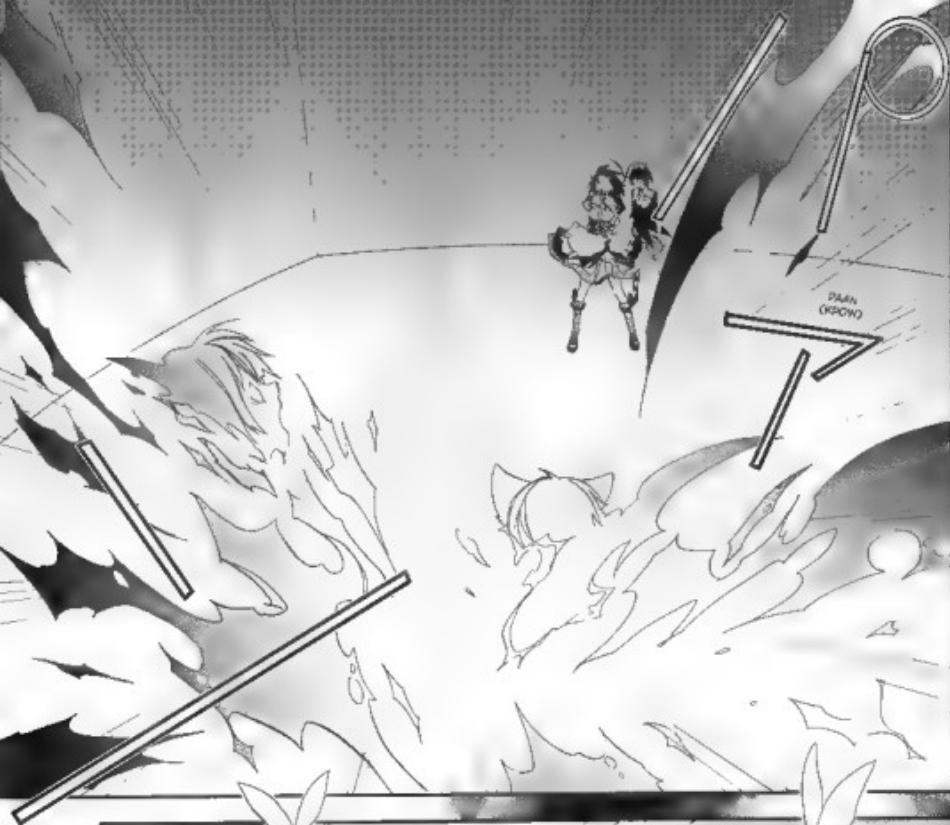


MISH
OVERMAN

KY
N
N
GAH



THAT
SHOULD
DO IT....!



I NEEDED
TO NOT
DISAPPEAR
HERE.



...THANK
YOU.

IS THAT
ACCEPTABLE
...?

YOU
WOULDN'T BE
ABLE TO GIVE
UP IF YOU
LOST AT THIS
POINT.

WE HAVE
COMPLETED
THE TRIAL
TOGETHER.

ZEPAR-
SAMA,
PURFLUR-
SAMA.

SO LAST
UP IS
BEATRICE,
I SUPPOSE.

KIVA
KIVA
YOU
SAID IT,
ZEPARI!

WELL,
WELL!
NO COM-
PLAINTS
HERE, YOU
TWO!

CHIGA
(PREH)



WITH
THE
SACRIFICE
SHE
CHOSE, OF
COURSE!





ALL
BECAUSE
I WAS
USELESS
TO HIM...



YOU HAVE
HAD A VERY
LONG DAY
AT WORK,
HUSBAND.





YOU MUST
BE A
GOOD WIFE
TO HIM.



...BUT IT
ONLY MAKES
ME FEEL
MISERABLE.

I UNDERSTAND
FROM A LOGICAL
STANDPOINT
THAT STAYING
HERE IS THE
BEST WAY TO
HELP HIM...

I AM WAITING
HERE
BECAUSE I
LOVE MY
HUSBAND.

BUT LOVE
DESires
COMPANY...



...TO BE
LEFT
WAITING
BECAUSE
OF LOVE.

...IT IS
VERY
PAIN-
FUL...

...MEANT
THAT YOU
COULD NOT STAND THE
ACT OF
HOLDING THAT
UNFAMILIAR
BABE...

THAT
LOVE FOR
YOUR
HUSBAND
...

WHO...

WHO
GOES
THERE
!?

!?

I THINK
I'VE SEEN
HER BEFORE...

I WILL NOT
ACCUSE YOU
OF THE SIN OF
MURDERING THAT
UNFAMILIAR
BABE NINETEEN
YEARS AGO.

SHE
MUST
BE...

WHAT
ARE
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT
!?

OH...

AH!

!!??

WH-
WHAT
...



...SO
KINZOU-SAN
BROUGHT A
BABY
FROM THE
ORPHANAGE
AND
INSTRUCTED
HER TO
RAISE IT.

...IT SAID
THAT
NATSUHI-
SAN
DID NOT
BEAR
ANY
CHILDREN
FOR
YEARS...



...I
CHOOSE
HER...

THERE-
FORE...



OUT OF LOVE, I WILL
NOT BLAME YOU FOR
KILLING A BABY THAT
DID NOT SHARE YOUR
HUSBAND'S BLOOD
OUT OF YOUR LOVE FOR
YOUR HUSBAND.

AND
THERE-
FORE...

GET
OUT!
THIS
IS MY
BED-
CHAM-
BER!

I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
YOU
MEAN!



OUT
OF LOVE,
PLEASE
DO NOT
BLAME
ME...

...FOR
KILLING
YOU.

GUH!



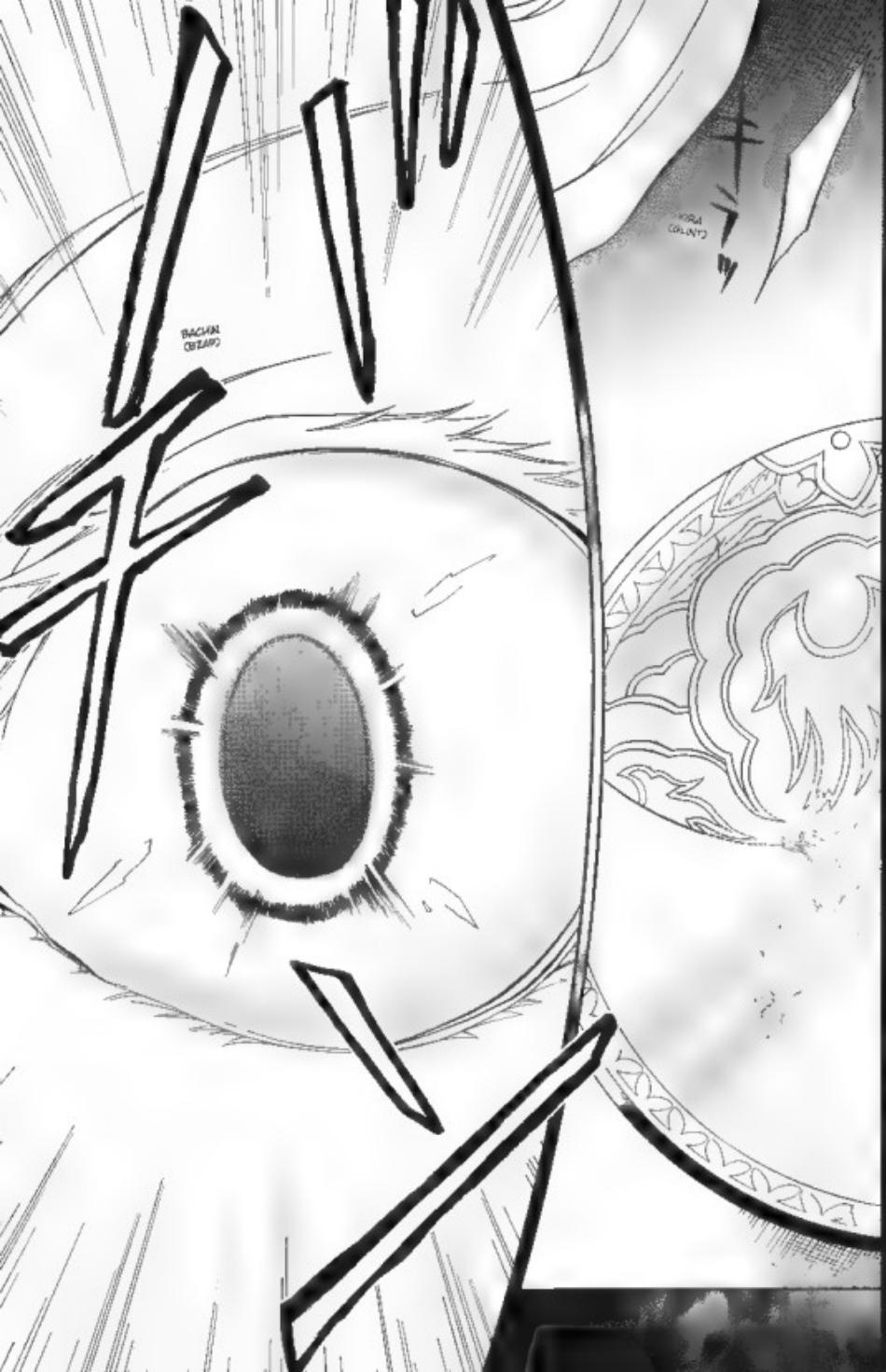
**ALL THE
OTHER
LOVERS
HAVE
SHOWN
THEIR
DETERMI-
NATION.**

**...ARE IN
NO WAY
INFERIOR
TO
THEIRS!**

BUT MY
FEELINGS
FOR
BATTLER-
SAN...



PATAN
CHALNIP





AH!

BA CHOOOSH

TA
GA CLASH

BACH

BACH

BACH

WH-WHAT
IS THAT
MIRROR...!?

THIS
SPIRIT
MIRROR
AND ITS
MIRACU-
LOUS
QUALITIES
REPEL
ALL EVIL
BEINGS!

IT'S
BECAUSE
YOU ARE
AN EVIL,
WICKED
WITCH!

ALL I
KNOW IS
THAT YOU
TRIED TO
KILL ME
AND THAT
YOU ARE A
WITCH WHO
COWERS
BEFORE
THIS
MIRROR!

I...
I DON'T
KNOW
WHO OR
WHAT
YOU
ARE!

NATSUHI
USHI-
ROMIYA
WILL NOT
FALTER
BACK A
SINGLE
STEP TO
EVIL!

I BANISH
YOU TO
THE WORLD
YOU CAME
FROM,
WICKED
WITCH!

DON'T
POINT
THAT...
AT
ME....!

...WHY?

BETWEEN
BEING
BURNED BY
SPIDERWEBB
AND MAGIC
CHARMS...

...I THOUGHT
IT WAS ONLY
ONEE-SAMA
WHO HAD THE
WEAKNESSES
OF THE
NONHUMAN.

...AND
HAVING HER
POWER
SEALED BY
THE SPIRIT
MIRROR...

WHY AM I
AFFECTED
BY THIS
ANCIENT
MIRROR...?

...AND THINK
OF ME AS
IMPORTANT,
JUST LIKE
THE OTHERS.

I JUST WANT
TO HAVE
BATTLER-SAN
RECOGNIZE
MY WORTH...

ARE YOU
GIVING UP!?

I CAN'T
BE
STOPPED
AT THIS
POINT...
...NOT
WHEN
I'VE
FINALLY
COME TO
TERMS
WITH
THIS...

YOU MUST
BELIEVE,
AND A
MIRACLE
OF LOVE
WILL COME
ABOUT!

YOU,
AND
ONLY
YOU!?

I WANT HIM
TO RECOGNIZE
AND ACCEPT
MY FEELINGS
FOR HIM.

I WANT
BATTLER-
SAN TO
NOTICE ME.

I
DON'T
WANT...
TO
GIVE
UP.

...WAS BECAUSE
I THOUGHT
REVERING HIM
AS A PARENT WAS
THE NATURAL,
ACCEPTED THING
TO DO — A WAY THAT
I COULD LOVE
HIM FREELY.

THE
REASON I
CALLED HIM
“FATHER”...

...THAT WAS
JUST
ARROGANCE...
A LIE I TOLD
MYSELF...

BUT...



THAT IS
EXACTLY
...

YES!

SO I
CANNOT
STOP AND
FALL IN
DEFEAT HERE!

AND I
WANT
HIM TO
LOVE
ME!

I LOVE
BATTLER-
SAN.

HUH
!?

...WHAT
WE
WANTED
TO
HEAR.

I WAS
BORN
ENTIRELY
FOR HIS
SAKE,
AFTER
ALL...



MY FIRST
PREY IN
AGES IS THIS
TATTERED
OLD MIRROR?
WHAT A
DISGRACE TO
MY GOOD
NAME!

LUCIFER
THE PROUD,
AT YOUR
SERVICE!

SOME-
ONE,
COME
QUICK!
SOME-
ONE,
HELP!

S-
SOME-
ONE!

BEATRICE-
SAMA,
CONTINUE
THE TRIAL...
SHE WILL
ESCAPE!

TH-
THANK
YOU,
LUCIFER-
SAN!

IF SHE CALLS
SOMEONE, I'LL
BE BURNED BY
THE ANTI-MAGIC
TOXINS! THIS
IS MY ONLY
CHANCE!

OH
RIGHT!

LUCIFER...
SAN?

P-
PREPARE
YOURSELF,
NATSUHI
USHIRO-
MIYA!

HNGH?



GU
GRGL

I CAN'T
SUMMON
ENOUGH
STRENGTH

IT'S
NO
GOOD
...

GH...
GRGH...

GU
GRGL

IF SHE
OPENS
THAT
DOOR...

...I WILL
FAIL THE
TRIAL...

JUST
UNLOCKING
IT
INCREASES
THE
AMOUNT
OF ANTI-
MAGIC
TOUCH.

A
SEALED
ROOM
IS ONE
OF THE
CONCEPTS
THAT
MAKES A
WITCH A
WITCH.

NOOOO
!!

NO!
DON'T
OPEN
IT!



THAT'S
GOOD
ENOUGH.



LUCIFER.

DO IT.

R...

RIGHT
AWAY!

IGN



SAY,
ZEPAR!
IS THIS
ALLOW-
ABLE?

BEATRICE
DID NOT
COMPLETE
THE TRIAL
THROUGH
HER OWN
POWER
ALONE!

THAT'S
RIGHT, FURFUR!
AND THE
TRIAL MUST BE
COMPLETED
THROUGH THE
CONTESTANT'S
POWER ALONE,
WITHOUT
HELP!

THIS
DOES NOT
COUNT AS
ASSIS-
TANCE!

HEH
HEH!
HOWEVER,
PERHAPS
THERE'S
ROOM FOR AN
EXCEPTION?

A PAIR OF
LOVERS
MAKE ONE
TOGETHER!

BA... -----



BATTLER-SAN...

DON'T
GET ME SO
WORRIED
RIGHT FROM
THE START
OF THE FIRST
NIGHT.

F-FORGIVE
ME...I DID
NOT HEED
YOUR
INSTRU-
CTIONS...



...I SHOULD
STAY IN MY
ROOM AND
BEHAVE,
BUT I
DIDN'T...

INSTRU-
CTIONS?

YOU
SAID...



N-NO,
FATHER...

I MEAN,
BATTLER-
SAN—
YOU DID
NOTHING
WRONG.

I DIDN'T
CHOOSE
MY WORDS
PROPERLY.

...IN THAT
CASE...
I WAS
WRONG
TOO.

IT'S FINE.
CALL ME
WHATEVER
YOU LIKE.





I'M SORRY
FOR
MISBEHAVING

BESIDES,
I HEARD
THE
PURPOSE
OF THE
GAME.

YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO TACKLE IT
AS A PAIR,
APPARENTLY.

I HEARD
FROM
ZEPAR AND
PURFUR...

...THAT
YOU'VE
STARTED
SOME
BIZARRE
KIND OF
GAME.

NO,
IT'S
FINE.

Y-
YES.

YES!

THAT'S
RIGHT,
LORD
BATTLER!

BUNA
GENOOGO



SURE IS
LIVELY
HERE...



IT'S FINE
TO ENJOY A
SILLY GAME
LIKE THIS
NOW AND
THEN.

OUR ODD
LITTLE
RELATION-
SHIP HAS
BEEN GOING
ON LONG
ENOUGH.



WE KNEW
THIS WOULD
HAPPEN
FROM THE
VERY START!





MY
WORK IS
ALREADY
DONE.

UNDE-
RSTOOD,
LORD
BAT-
TLER!





WE WILL
HAVE TO
PUSH THEM
FARTHER IN
THE NEXT
TRIAL!







Hello, it's Momoyama again.
Thank you so much for
reading Episode 6, Volume 3!
This volume was really fun,
getting to draw the madam
and Eva-trice so much! Of
course, they had to bow
out early due to the trial
of love... *sob* And while
Erika-sama got to reveal
her past this time, she'll be
duking it out with Battler
next volume, so I hope to
see you once again then.

SPECIAL THANKS

Written and Supervised by:

Ryukishi07-sama &
the staff of 07th Expansion

Edited by:

Nakagawa-sama, Koizumi-sama

Assisted by:

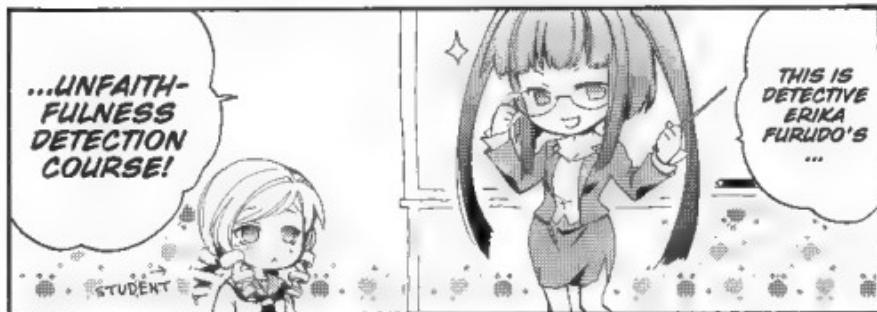
Wataru Inuzuka-sama,
Tada-sama, Ekuni-kun, Kazuki-
sama, Kimura-sama, Cornel
Takahashi-sama, Nanami-sama,
Hamano-sama, Fujiwara-sama,
Yamao-sama, Yūkarin-sama

Friends & Family

& You!



ERIKA-SENSEI'S UNFAITHFULNESS DETECTION COURSE ①



ERIKA-SENSEI'S UNFAITHFULNESS DETECTION COURSE ②



...BUT IN
MY HANDS, IT
CAN BE A FATAL
WEAPON TO THE
WITCH WHO'S
RUNNING THE
GAME.

THIS
MIGHT JUST
BE
TAPE...

WHAT DO
YOU THINK,
EVERYONE?

...I CAN
DO ALL
OF THIS.

WITH
JUST THIS
SIMPLE
TAPE...



MMMNH!

MMH!



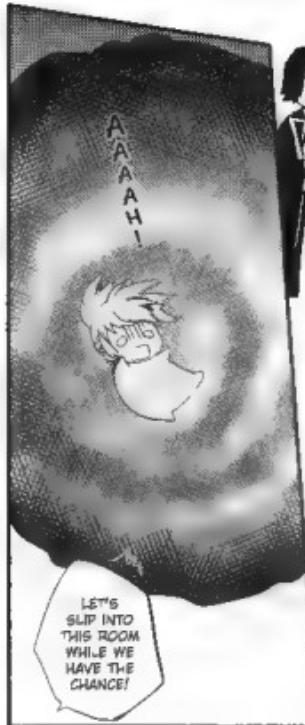
THIS
IS
IN POOR
TASTE.

K
Y
A
A
A
A



FATHER !!!

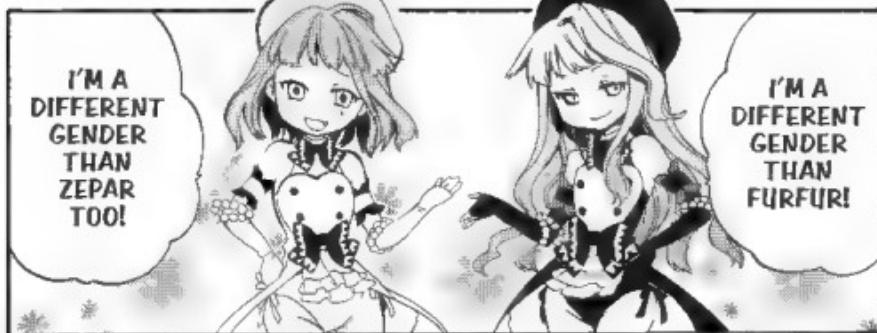
TOO MUCH ADDED



TODAY'S SELECTION IS...



REPEAT AFTER ME



CHAPTER 8 BACKSTORY



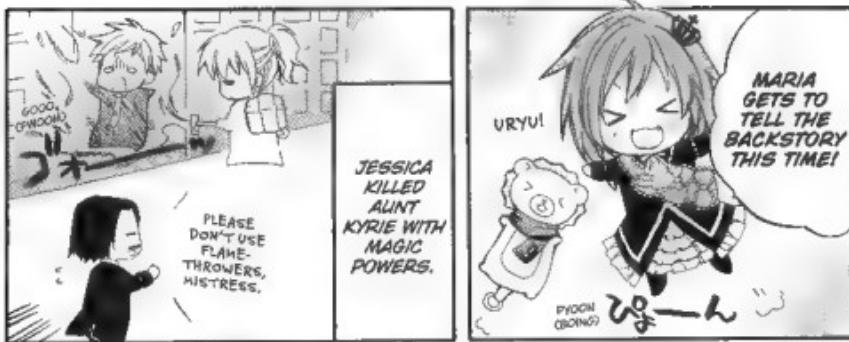
CHAPTER 9 BACKSTORY



CHAPTER 10 BACKSTORY



CHAPTER 11 BACKSTORY



Umineko

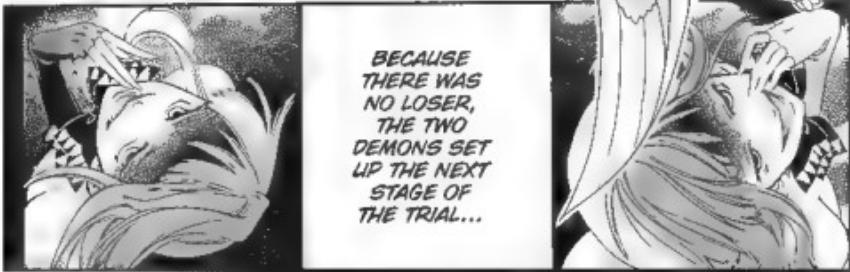
WHEN THEY CRY

Episode 6: Dawn of the Golden Witch



ZEPAR AND
FURFLUR,
DEMONS OF
LOVE, SET
A TRIAL OF
ROMANCE...

...WHICH
GEORGE,
SHANNON,
KANON,
JESSICA,
BEATRICE,
AND BATTLER
PASSED
WITH FLYING
COLORS.



BECAUSE
THERE WAS
NO LOSER,
THE TWO
DEMONS SET
UP THE NEXT
STAGE OF
THE TRIAL....

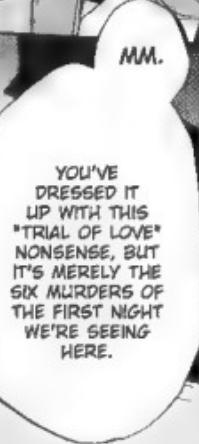


HOW IS
THE STORY
SO FAR?





Chapter 13: Detective's Privileges and the Premise of Magic





...IS
"LOVE."

THEREFORE,
THE THING
THE WRITER
WANTS TO
RELATE ABOVE
ALL ELSE...

AHH.



BUT FOR
WHATEVER
REASON, IT'S
CONSIDERED
CRUDE TO JUST
SPELL OUT
EXACTLY WHAT
THEY MEAN FOR
THE READERS.
IT MUST BE
INDIRECT
INSTEAD.



THE WRITER
HAS A TALE
THEY WANT
TO TELL.

...BUT IT'S
REINFORCED
EVEN MORE
IN THIS NEW
WORK...

IN THE
PREVIOUS
STORIES,
THERE ARE
CONSTANT
REFERENCES
TO "NOT
REACHING
THE TRUTH
WITHOUT
LOVE"...



...MEANING
THAT
IT IS
THE KEY
THEME.





AND IT
IS MY
ANSWER.



SO YOU'RE
SAYING THE
INCIDENT
TWELVE YEARS
AGO WAS ALL
CAUSED BY
SOME BIZARRE
DEMONIC
TRIAL OF
LOVE?



AN-
SWER?



WHAT I
WANT TO
KNOW IS THE
TRUTH YOU
CLAIM YOU
FOUND.



THIS IS
RUBBISH.



I DIDN'T
COME HERE
TO READ A
ROMANCE
NOVEL.

I HAVE EXHAUSTED SO MANY WORDS, AND YET YOU STILL DO NOT UNDERSTAND...

FOOLISH HUMAN CHILD.

HMPH...

LIKE ME, THEY WILL EARN THE RIGHT TO PRODUCE A NEW VERSION.

WITH THIS STORY, I AM CERTAIN OTHERS WILL REACH THE TRUTH AS WELL.



...BRINGING EVEN MORE PEOPLE TO THE TRUTH.

AND MORE AND MORE ENDLESS WITCHES WILL MULTIPLY THE STORIES OF BEATRICE'S CAT BOX...

...AND THE VAGARIES THEREIN WILL FINALLY BE REDEEMED.

IN THIS WAY, THE VERY FIRST BEATRICE AND THE WORK SHE PUT INTO ALL THOSE LETTERS AND STORIES BEFORE HURLING THEM INTO THE SEA...

...BUT
THAT'S
JUST A
PERSPECTIVE
THROUGH
ONE EYE.

I ALREADY
HAVE
MY OWN
VIEW...

...BUT
I KNOW
WHAT
YOU
MEAN.

I
HATE
TO
SAY
IT...

I CANNOT
GAIN A THREE-
DIMENSIONAL
VIEW OF THE
TRUTH UNLESS I
ACCEPT OTHER
VIEWPOINTS.

THAT
IS HOW I
INTERPRET
THE PHRASE
"YOU CANNOT
SEE IT
WITHOUT
LOVE."

I AM
NOTHING BUT
A GUIDEPOST
TO AWAKEN
YOU TO YOUR
STATUS AS THE
TRUE HEIR...

...ANGE
BEATRICE.

THAT
IS GOOD,
HUMAN
CHILD.

AS
THE LAST
SURVIVING
USHIROMIYA,
IT IS LIKELY
YOU ARE
FATED TO
REACH THE
TRUTH...

SOMETIMES
I HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
SHE MEANS,
BUT...

...AND
ASCEND
TO THE
ROLE OF
ENDLESS
WITCH.



...I AM POSITIVE SHE KNOWS SOMETHING.





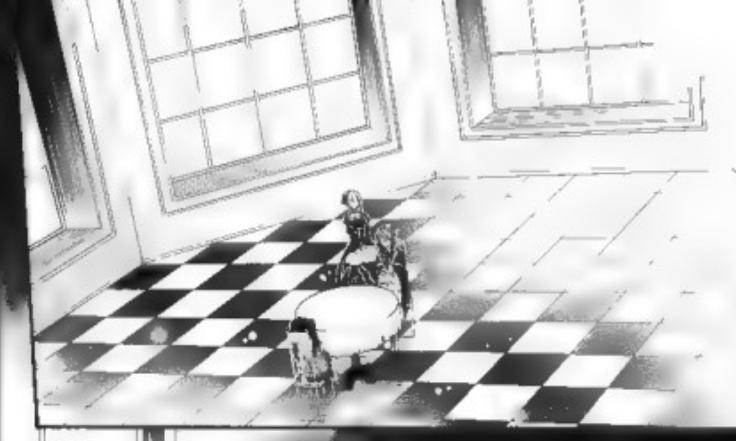
FOR WITH
YOUR
PRESENCE
I TOO...

JUST AS
YOU SEE
THINGS
WITH ONE
EYE, SO
DO I.

...WILL BE
ABLE TO
SEE THE
TRUTH
WITH TWO
EYES
FOR THE
FIRST
TIME...



COMBINE
THE
TRUTH YOU
SEE AND
THE TRUTH
I SEE.





D-DON'T TRY TO DISTRACT ME WITH NON-SENSE!



AS YOU WISH. LET'S START.



HMPH...



THE FIRST NIGHT-



OH, RIGHT.



BEFORE WE START THE GAME, I HAVE ONE DECLARATION.

YOU MADE
YOUR DETECTIVE
DECLARATION IN
THE FIFTH GAME.
GO AHEAD, KNOCK
YOURSELF OUT.

RIGHT.

THE DETECTIVE'S
DECLARATION
WAS A SPECIAL
PRIVILEGE GRANTED
TO ME BY LADY
BERNKASTEL FOR
THE FIFTH GAME.

OH, HOW
ACCOMMO-
DATING.

THE
DETECTIVE
CANNOT BE
THE CULPRIT,
AND SO ON.
IT IS A
CONVENIENT
ROLE WITH
MANY
ABILITIES AND
CONDITIONS.
HOWEVER...

THE
DETECTIVE
IDENTIFIES
EVERY
EXAMINABLE
PIECE OF
EVIDENCE
CORRECTLY.

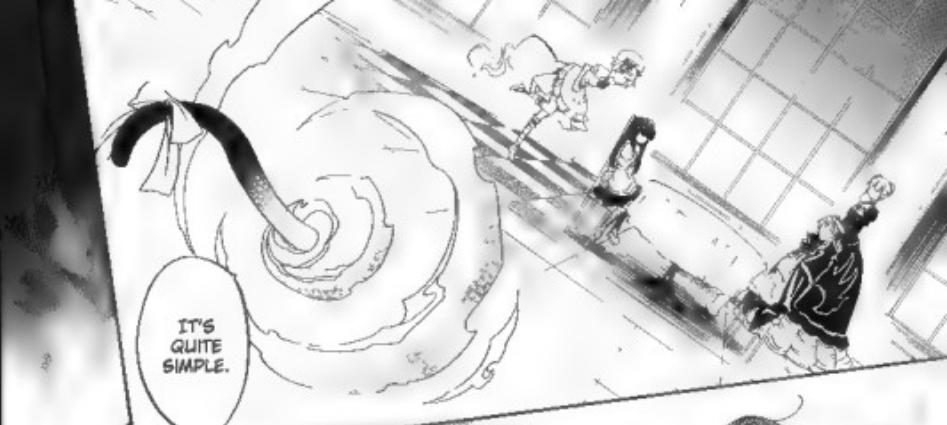
NONE OF THE
CHARACTERS
ON THE
BOARD CAN
INHIBIT THE
DETECTIVE'S
EXAMINATION
OF THE
SCENE.

JUST THE
OPPOSITE.

NO.

TEE
HERE





DON'T
LEAN
ON ME.

...AND
ENSURING
THAT A
MASSIVE
VICTORY
UNDER THE
CIRCUMSTANCES
WILL WIPE THE
PREVIOUS
LOSS
CLEAN?

SO
INSTEAD,
YOU PUT
YOURSELF
AT A
HANDICAP
BY NOT
DECLARING
THE
PRIVILEGE
...

Y-YES,
MASTER.

AHA,
I
SEE.

IF
ANYTHING,
IT SOUNDS
LIKE AN
EXCUSE
PREPARED
IN CASE YOU
LOSE.

NOT
ONLY IS
IT NOT
YOUR
RIGHT,
IT'S
RUDE!

H-HOW DARE YOU
DECLARE
THIS BIZARRE
HANDICAP IN
THE GAME
BATTLER-SAN
WORKED SO
HARD TO
CREATE...?

HOW-EVER
...

IF SHE WINS
THIS GAME AS A
HUMAN WITHOUT
THE DETECTIVE'S
PRIVILEGE...

...IF
ERIKA
LOSES
...



...BATTLER'S
WITCHLY
ILLUSION WILL
BE FOREVER
DESTROYED,
NEVER TO
RETURN.

IT SEEMS
TO SUIT
ERIKA'S SIDE
MORE.

THAT'S
ONE WAY
TO LOOK
AT IT.





...THIS
GARBAGE
SLEUTH WILL
BE HURTLED TO
THE OBLIVION OF
THE FORGOTTEN,
TRAPPED WITHIN
THE WORST
POSSIBLE
FRAGMENT.





PLUS, I AM BORED OF THOSE LUKE-WARM GAMES LIKE THE ONES YOU PLAYED WITH THE OLD BEATO.

...THAT WILL MEAN BATTLER HAS WON BEATO'S GAME, AND THUS, IT WILL ALL COME TO AN END.

IN A WAY, IT'S A CONCLUSION YOU CAN'T PASS UP, YES?

IF BATTLER SUCCEEDS IN ESTABLISHING THIS GAME...





AND THAT'S YOUR WILL?



IT IS
MY OWN
WILL!
I SHALL
NOT
LOSE!



O-OFF COURSE!



IF THAT'S
WHAT YOU
WANT, THEN
I ACCEPT
YOUR
TERMS.



ALL
RIGHT.



BAT-
TLE-
SAN...



I WILL
CONSIDER
IT TO BE
AT YOUR
DISPOSAL.

BUT IF
YOU WANT
TO DECLARE
YOURSELF THE
DETECTIVE,
YOU'RE FREE
TO AT ANY
MOMENT.



ALL HE
COULD USE
WAS BLUE
TRUTH AND
DEMAND HIS
STATEMENTS
BE REPEATED
IN RED.



WH-WHY
WOULD I GO
BACK ON MY
WORD...AND
DECLARE IT...?



IF YOU THINK
ABOUT IT, WHEN
BATTLER WAS ON
THE HUMAN SIDE,
HE NEVER HAD THE
CONVENIENCE OF
THE DETECTIVE'S
PRIVILEGE.

SO FAILING
TO WIN WAS
THE VERY
SAME THING
AS LOSING...

FUNA
CROWN

EXACTLY.

IN A
WAY, THE
PREVIOUS
GAMES
WERE
UNFAIR.

MY
BOREDOM
HAS
ALREADY
BEGUN TO
SET IN.

NOW
BEGIN,
YOU
TWO.

I WILL
SHOW YOU
THE LITTER
DESTRUCTION
OF THE
WITCH'S
ILLUSION
....!

L...
LEAVE IT
TO ME,
MASTER!

GUSTA
CROWN







WE
CALLED THE
SERVANTS'
ROOM AND
DINING ROOM
IN THE
MANSION,
BUT THERE
WAS NO
ANSWER...



THEY
WENT DOWN
A WHILE
AGO TO GET
DRINKS AND
NEVER CAME
BACK.



DIDN'T
THEY GO
TO THE
MANSION?

OF
COURSE
THEY
WOULDN'T
COME IN
HERE.



I'M GOING
TO GO CHECK
OUT THE
MANSION.



YOU JUST
STAY RIGHT
HERE.

IT'S
DANGEROUS AT
THIS
TIME OF NIGHT!

BUT THIS
ISLAND IS
CLOSED
OFF! WHAT
LURKING
STRANGERS
COULD
POSSIBLY BE
OUT THERE?

I'LL
CONTACT
YOU IF
ANYTHING
HAPPENS.

AND
TELL THE
SERVANTS IN
THE GUEST-
HOUSE NOT
TO LEAVE FOR
ANYTHING.

W-WAIT!
ERIKA-
SAN?

SO
LONG!

ZABA
CEHAWA

BASHA

DARMA
SPLASH

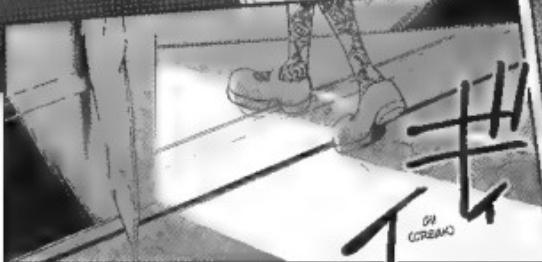
SHO

SHO
CEHAWA

WHICH
MEANS THE
STAGE IS
SET FOR
SLAUGHTER
IN THE
MANSION.

IN PREVIOUS
GAMES, THE
DISCOVERY OF
THE FIRST-NIGHT
MURDERS
OCCURRED IN THE
MORNING, BUT
THIS TIME HE'S
MADE IT MORE
IMMEDIATE.

NOTHING
HAS
HAPPENED
IN THE
GUEST-
HOUSE.



1
ON CREAM

BASHA





PARA-MEDICS
....!!

GARTH
GARFIELD

P-

PO-LICE !!

THIS IS
JUST
WHAT YOU
WANT FROM
THE FIRST
WITNESS.

WHAT A
LOVELY,
STUPID
FACE.

PLEASE,
TRY TO
REMAIN
CALM.



AS THEY WOULD LEARN LATER, THE HAT RACK FROM WITHIN THE ROOM WAS PLACED THROUGH THE HANDLES OF THE DOUBLE DOORS TO HOLD THEM CLOSED.



...AND FOUND THAT THE DOOR WAS BARRED SHUT FROM THE INSIDE.

ROSA LEFT FOR A BREAK AND DID NOT RETURN, SO THE ADULTS WENT TO THE GUEST PARLOR...

...THEY SAW THAT ROSA WAS LYING ON THE SOFA IN AN UNNATURAL STATE AND BLEEDING.

UPON GOING OUTSIDE TO LOOK THROUGH THE WINDOWS INTO THE ROOM...

THAT IS CORRECT.

AND THE WINDOWS WERE ALSO LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE...?



...SO THEY BROKE THE GLASS TO GET INSIDE THE GUEST ROOM...

...WHERE THEY DISCOVERED MARIA COLLAPSED IN HER OWN BLOOD AGAINST THE WALL.

AND THE OTHER SCENES?

NO WONDER THERE WAS SUCH AN UPROAR. I SEE.

...THE MEN ARE CIRCLING THE HALLS NOW, JUST IN CASE OTHERS WHO ARE NOT PRESENT HAVE FALLEN IN THE SAME WAY.

...BECAUSE THEY HAD GONE OUTSIDE TO CHECK ON THE GUEST ROOM FROM THERE.

WHEN ERIKA ENTERED THE MANSION, THE FRONT DOOR WASN'T LOCKED...

BUT BECAUSE IT WAS LOCKED UNTIL THAT MOMENT...

THEY DO SO WITH THE WINCHESTER RIFLES, IN CASE THEY RUN ACROSS WHOEVER KILLED THE VICTIMS...

AND ARE THE LOCATIONS OF THE DEAD THE SAME AS IN THE LONG-WINED, STOMACH-TURNING "LOVE BATTLE" YOU WERE SHOWING ME EARLIER?

...THE SAME.

EVA IN THE ROSE GARDEN... OR WAS SHE MOVED TO THE V.I.P. ROOM AFTER ALL?

NATSUHI IN HER OWN ROOM, AND KYRIE IN KRAUSS'S STUDY.

ROSA AND MARIA IN THE GUEST ROOM.

THAT MAKES FIVE VICTIMS.

ONE...
TWO...

BUT THAT'S ONE SHORT FOR THE FIRST NIGHT.

OH?

EVA'S BODY WILL BE DISCOVERED IN THE V.I.P. ROOM.

THAT'S RIGHT.

...AND WHERE ARE THEY?

WHO IS THE SIXTH...

GACHA
CHATTER





YAH!

THERE'S
SOME-
ONE
ON THE
BED!

IS
SOME-
ONE IN
HERE? SHOW
YOUR-
SELF!



I AM SO
TERRIBLY
SORRY...

I...

WH...
WHY?
WHAT
ARE YOU
EVEN
DOING IN
HERE?

GASHAN
CLACKO



IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE... BUT THIS ROOM WAS LOCKED UP TIGHT TOO.



HOW
CAN
THIS BE
SUICIDE
!?

NO
WAY
THAT
CAN
BE
TRUE!

WELL,
WELL...
THIS IS A
SURPRISE.

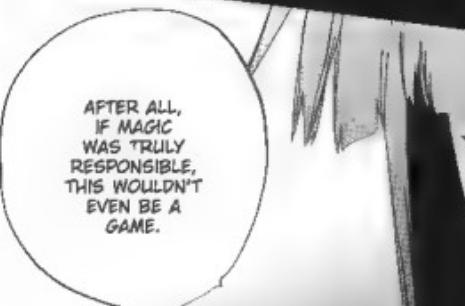
SO THE
SIXTH
IS YOU.



HMPH.



IN OTHER WORDS...



YES, THAT'S
WHAT KIND OF
GAME WE'RE
PLAYING.

I SEE.

THIS GAME IS FAIR.

IN OTHER WORDS,
THE WITCH'S SIDE IS
RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING
THE EVENTS POSSIBLE
THROUGH THE USE
OF A TRICK AS WELL,
NOT JUST MAGIC.

IF YOU
CAN'T
DO THAT,
THERE'S
NO GAME
TO BE
PLAYED.

THE POINT
IS FOR
MYSTERIOUS
HAPPENINGS
CLAIMED
TO BE MAGIC...

...TO BE
POSSIBLE
BY OTHER,
RATIONAL
MEANS.

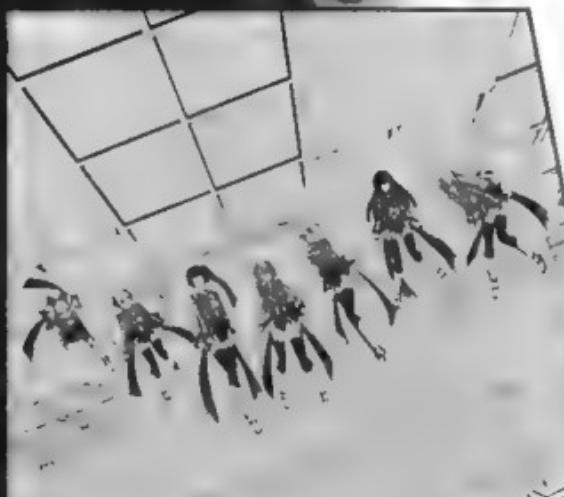


IN OTHER WORDS,
TO CREATE
A SEALED
ROOM
THROUGH
MAGIC...

IF THE HUMAN SIDE
CANNOT SEE
THROUGH THE VEIL, ALL
MAGIC AND
ILLUSIONS
ARE
ALLOWED.

BY NOW, I
UNDER-
STAND.

...ONE
MUST FIRST
CREATE AN
EVENT THAT
CAN BE
CAUSED BY
HUMAN
ACTIONS.



...WHEN I WAS
SO FURIOUS
WITH THEM IN
THE FOURTH
GAME.

I UNDERSTAND
WHY THE
SEVEN SISTERS
COULDN'T KILL MY
CLASSMATES AT
ST. LUCIA'S...



BECALM
MAGIC CAN
ONLY ACHIEVE
THAT WHICH IS
POSSIBLE WITH
YOUR OWN
HANDS?



...AND
"EMBEL-
LISH"
THE
PROCESS.

MAGIC
CAN ONLY
TAKE
THINGS
YOU DO...

SO SHE
WILL NEVER
GIVE IN TO
A WITCH.

SHE
POSSESSES
THE BELIEF
THAT EVERY-
THING CAN BE
EXPLAINED
WITH
TRICKS.

HA.
HA.

VERY
INTER-
ESTING.

AND
THIS ERIKA
UNDERSTANDS
THAT FROM
THE VERY
START.



ONCE YOU
SEE THROUGH
THAT RULE, THE
WITCH'S SIDE
DOESN'T STAND
A CHANCE.

...WHICH
IS WHY HE
WAS VEXED
SO SORELY.

THE OLD
BATTLER
DID NOT
HAVE THAT
ASSUR-
ANCE...

THE
LONGER IT
DRAGS ON,
THE MORE
HINTS YOU
GIVE AWAY,
AND THE
WORSE OFF
THE WITCH IS...

WHICH IS
WHY IT'S
NECESSARY
TO CRUSH THE
OPPONENT
BEFORE THEY
CAN SEE
THROUGH
YOU.

YES.

THERE
IT IS
AGAIN.

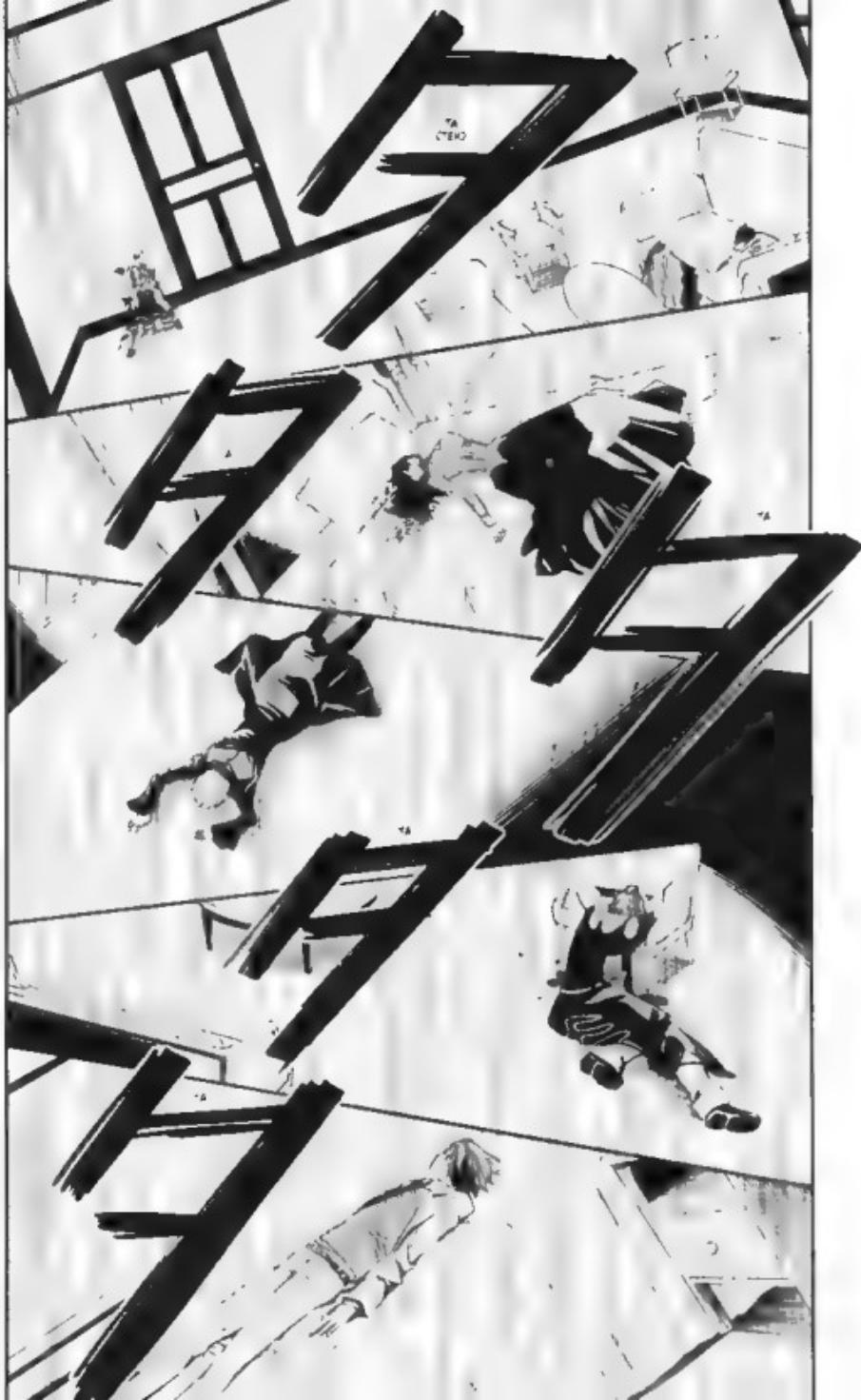
MY
THOUGHTS
ARE
RUNNING
IN
CIRCLES
ONCE
MORE.

WHY...

ooo DID BEATO
PROLONG
THE GAME
UNTIL SHE
LOST...?









THAT
MAKES...
ALL OF
THEM.



LADY
ERIKA.



YES?
WHAT
IS IT?

I BELIEVE
YOU KNOW
THIS, BUT
JUST IN
CASE, I MUST
DELIVER A
WARNING.



BECAUSE
YOU DO NOT
HAVE THE
DETECTIVE'S
PRIVILEGE
NOW...

...THERE IS
ALWAYS THE
POSSIBILITY THAT,
NO MATTER HOW
LONG YOU EXAMINE,
YOU MAY FAIL TO
DETECT A PERSON
PLAYING DEAD.



BUT I
CERTAINLY
CAN'T GO
WITHOUT
LOOKING AT
THE MURDER
SCENES.

I KNOW
THAT.



...AND I
COMMITTED
A MOST
REGRETTABLE
ERROR.

I WAS TOO
ARROGANT
TO DO
THAT LAST
GAME...



.....

EXACTLY.

I MUST USE THE FUNDAMENTALS. ATTACK HIM WITH THE BASICS.

THE LACK OF THE DETECTIVE'S PRIVILEGE IS NOT A HANDICAP.

THIS GAME TRACES BACK TO THE DAYS OF BEATO AND BATTLER'S FIERCE SKIRMISHES.

MEANING...

I'M ONLY FIGHTING FROM THE SAME POSITION THAT BATTLER HIMSELF ONCE DID.

...I WILL NEED TO HAVE BATTLER REPEAT SOME OF THEM FOR ME.

IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES INDIVIDUALLY...

I WILL HAVE TO USE THE BLUE TRUTH SKILLFULLY TO DRAW THEM OUT OF HIM.

INDEED.



...BECAUSE
I KNOW
FAR MORE
ABOUT
THE RED
AND BLUE
TRUTHS
THAN
BATTLER
EVER DID
BACK
THEN...

...I
CANNOT
POSSIBLY
LOSE.



...WITH
LOCKED
WINDOWS
AND
CHAINS
ON THE
DOORS.

IN THIS
GAME, THERE
ARE FOUR
ROOMS
CONTAINING
BODIES...



THE GUEST
ROOM WITH
ROSA AND
MARIA WAS
THE ONLY
EXCEPTION,
WHERE THE
HAT RACK
WAS USED
TO BAR THE
DOOR...



...BUT THE
POSSIBILITY
THAT ANY OF
THE BODIES
COULD HAVE
BEEN
EMBELLISHED
FAKES
CANNOT BE
RULED OUT.

ERIKA
PERFORMED
EXAMINATIONS
OF THE
BODIES...



Chapter 14: Battle of Red and Blue



...AND
THE
ILLUSION
OF THE
INCIDENT.

THE
ILLUSION
OF THE
SEAL...

I HAPPEN
TO THINK
THE "ALL
CHAIN
LOCKS"
ELEMENT IS
ELEGANT.

I THOUGHT
BEATO'S
LOOP OF SIX
CONNECTED
SEALED
ROOMS WAS
BETTER...

...BUT IN
THE SENSE
THAT MASTER
KEYS AREN'T
INVOLVED, THIS
ONE IS A MORE
COMPLETE,
PERFECT
SEAL.

THERE ARE
ESSENTIALLY
TWO TYPES OF
SEALED-ROOM
STRATEGIES
THAT BATTLER
CAN GO FOR.



TO CALL
INTO
QUESTION
WHETHER
THE VICTIM
IS DEAD
OR NOT.

THE
ILLUSION
THAT A
MURDER
HAS EVEN
HAPPENED
AT ALL...

BUT
WHAT'S AN
"INCIDENT
ILLUSION"?

I GET THE
"SEAL ILLUSION"
IDEA. THAT'S
WHERE IT
LOOKS SEALED
BUT ACTUALLY
ISN'T.





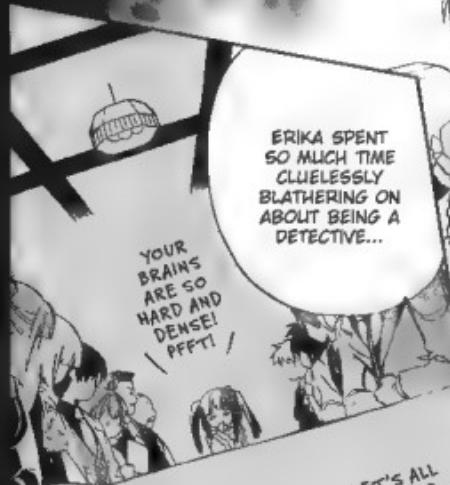
I CAN TELL
YOU, AFTER
HAVING SEEN
BATTLER'S
GAME BOARD
FROM
BEHIND THE
SCENES...

...THIS
IS A
PERFECT
SEAL.



ERIKA SPENT
SO MUCH TIME
CLUELESSLY
BLATHERING ON
ABOUT BEING A
DETECTIVE...

THEN THAT
MEANS IT'S
AN INCIDENT
ILLUSION.



YOUR
BRAINS
ARE SO
HARD AND
DENSE!
PFFT!

LET'S ALL
TEAM UP
AND FOOL
HER!

...THAT
ALL OF
USHIROMIYA
BANDED
TOGETHER
TO PLAY A
TRICK AND
MAKE
LIP FAKE
MURDERS.

YEAH!

IN THAT
CASE, WHAT
WE HAVE IS A
MAKE-BELIEVE
SEALED-ROOM
INCIDENT.

I
GUESS.

THE VICTIMS HAVE
BEEN WELL
AND TRULY
MURDERED.

OH
REAL-
LY?

NOT
"AT THE
POINT OF
MIDNIGHT
ON THE
SECOND
DAY"?

HEM
WELL,
THAT
PRESENTS
A
PROBLEM.
BECAUSE
THIS IS
NOT
FALSIFIED.



...BUT HER
EXAMINATION
WAS EXTREMELY
PRECISE.

SHE DID NOT
MAKE THE
DETECTIVE'S
PROCLAMATION



YOU TRULY
ARE AN
INHUMAN
CREATURE.

...WON'T
THAT SIMPLY
CRUSH
BATTLER
AND BEATO
IN THE MOST
DEMEANING
WAY?

PLUS, IF
THEY'RE
BEATEN BY
A MERE
HUMAN WHO IS
NOT EVEN
A DETEC-
TIVE...

...THIS
IS GOING
TO BE
THE END
OF THE
GAME.

WELL, I
MEAN...

...IT
NEEDS
TO BE
PROPERLY
EXCIT-
ING.

...WITH AN
ERIKA VS.
BATTLER
SHOWDOWN
THAT RISKS
THEIR OWN
DESTRI-
CTION...

SO IF
WE'RE
GOING
TO CAP
IT OFF
PROPERLY

I THOUGHT
YOU AND I
WOULD GET
TO PLAY
THIS GAME
ENDLESSLY.
THAT'S
TOO
BAD...

TCH.



THAT WAS A
VERY HASTY
TOUR OF THE
SCENES.

ARE YOU
SURE
YOU SAW
ENOUGH?

SURE.

SHALL WE
BEGIN OUR
DEBATE
BATTLE OF
RED AND
BLUE?

YES, IT
WAS
ENOUGH.



ALL
THE ROOMS
HOUSING
THE SIX ARE
SEALED.

ITEM:

UNTIL THE
MOMENT THAT
GOUDA AND
THE OTHERS
SEVERED THE
CHAINS TO
GET INSIDE, OF
COURSE.

I AC-
KNOWL-
EDGE
IT.

...YOU MEAN
THAT THE ROOM
COULD NOT BE
LOCKED BY ANY
TRICKS SUCH
AS RESETTING
THE CHAIN FROM
OUTSIDE THE
DOOR WITH A
FINE WIRE, FOR
EXAMPLE.

WHEN YOU
SAY THAT
A ROOM
CANNOT BE
CONSTRUCTED
FROM
WITHOUT...

I AC-
KNOWL-
EDGE
IT.

ITEM:
A SEALED
ROOM IS
DEFINED AS A
ROOM WHOSE
CONDITIONS
CANNOT BE
CONSTRUCTED
FROM
WITHOUT.

SFX: KARI CSCRITTO KARI KARI

KOKUNI
CHORD



HOWEVER,
I WILL NOT
DENY THE
POSSIBILITY OF
REASONABLE
INTERFERENCE
METHODS AS
YOU MIGHT
EXPECT FOR
AN ORDINARY
ROOM SUCH
AS KNOCKING,
VOICES FROM
ADJACENT
ROOMS, OR
INDOOR PHONE
LINES.

I AC-
KNOWL-
EDGE
IT.

CONTINUE,
PLANOR.

IT
HARDLY
NEEDS
TO BE
SAID.

ITEM:
THE
DEFINITION OF A
SEALED ROOM
STATES THAT ALL
METHODS OF
INTERFERENCE
CROSSING BETWEEN
WITHIN AND
WITHOUT ARE
SEVERED.



THAT WAS TO
SEE IF THE
KILLER WAS
HIDING
INSIDE ANY
OF THOSE
ROOMS.



I AC-
KNOWL-
EDGE
IT.

WHEN THE
SEALED ROOMS
ARE BROKEN,
ONLY THE VICTIMS
(NATSUHI, EVA,
KYRIE, ROSA,
MARIA, BATTLER)
WERE INSIDE, AND
NOTHING ELSE.

ITEM:





...FOR
COMMITTING
THE MURDERS
THEN AND
THERE, AFTER
THE ROOMS
WERE
ORIGINALLY
LOCKED UP.

AND
PERHAPS
KRAUSS'S
GROUP WAS
REALLY
RESPONSIBLE

IS IT
BECAUSE AT
THE POINT THE
ROOMS WERE
OPENED, THE
VICTIMS WERE
STILL ALIVE?



IS THAT
THE TRUTH
BEHIND
THIS...?



THE MURDERS
WILL CONTINUE,
SO HE CANNOT
STATE IN RED
THAT THERE WILL
BE NO FURTHER
MURDERS.



NO, IT
IS NOT.



I WANT YOUR REPLY TO THAT.

BAN ORCHARD

KRAUSS'S GROUP SEVERED THE CHAINS, THUS BREAKING THE SEALS, AND KILLED THE PEOPLE INSIDE.

TCH! TECHNICALITY.

I THINK YOU KNOW WHAT WE'RE GETTING AT.

AH, OF COURSE. LET ME NARROW THAT DOWN.

LADY ERIKA...

...THE UNDEFINED PLURALITY OF "KRAUSS'S GROUP" IS NOT ADEQUATE.



...ASIDE FROM ME, WERE KRALISS, RUDOLF, HIDEYOSHI, AND GOUDA.

AFTER BREAKING THE SEALS ON THE ROOM, THE ONES TO ENTER...

REPEAT
AFTER
ME.

HOWEVER,
THIS IS ONLY
FOR THE
PRESENT
MOMENT.
DEPENDING
ON FUTURE
DEVELOPMENTS
IN THE STORY,
OTHER
CHARACTERS
MIGHT
ENTER.

FINE, I
ACKNOWL-
EDGE IT.

KRAUSS,
RUDOLF,
HIDEYOSHI,
AND GOUDA
ARE
NOT THE
KILLERS.

I BELIEVE
THAT
YOU CAN
ANSWER
THIS.



IF YOU
REFUSE, IT
WILL LEAVE
THE BLUE
TRUTH THAT
KRAUSS'S
GROUP
ARE THE
CULPRITS.



KRAUSS,
RUDOLF,
HIDEYOSHI,
AND GOUDA DO
NOT HAVE ANY
CONNECTION
TO THE
MURDERS OF
NATSUHI, EVA,
KYRIE, ROSA,
MARIA, AND
BATTLER.

I WILL
ADMIT IT, BUT
I'M GOING TO
NARROW MY
PHRASING.





THAT IS...

THE WITCH'S SIDE MUST PRESENT MYSTERIES THAT ARE SUPPOSEDLY IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT MAGIC.



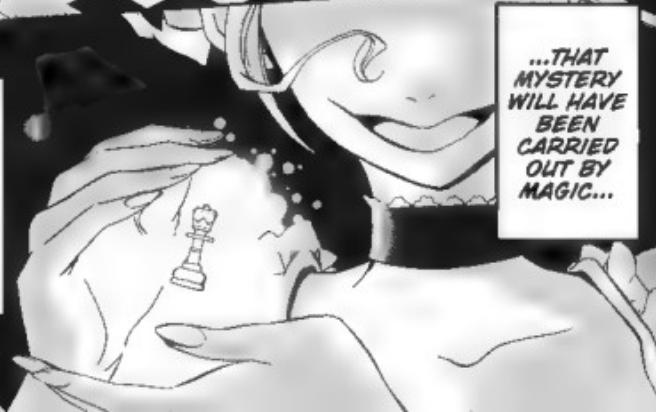
...THE RULE OF THE WITCH'S GAME.



THE HUMAN SIDE MUST ARGUE WITH BLUE TRUTHS THAT EXPLAIN THE MYSTERIES WITH HUMAN TRICKS.



AND IF EVEN A SINGLE MYSTERY IS UNANSWERABLE WITH BLUE TRUTH...



...THAT MYSTERY WILL HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY MAGIC...

...THUS MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DENY THE WITCH'S EXISTENCE...

MEANWHILE,
THE HUMAN
SIDE MUST
EXPLAIN ALL
OF THE
MYSTERIES
WITH BLUE
TRUTH.

IN OTHER
WORDS,
THE WITCH'S
SIDE CAN
SIMPLY
WORK ON
PROTECTING
A SINGLE
MYSTERY.





THEY WERE
NOT SUICIDES
OR ACCIDENTAL
DEATHS, OF
COURSE.

I AC-
KNOWL-
EDGE
IT.

ITEM:
THE
VICTIMS
WERE—

GATA
ORTHLUNNO

LET'S
HEAR
YOUR
ARGU-
MENTS.

NOW
LET US
BEGIN THE
REBUTTAL
TIME
WITH BLUE
TRUTH!

THAT
WILL DO,
PLANOR.

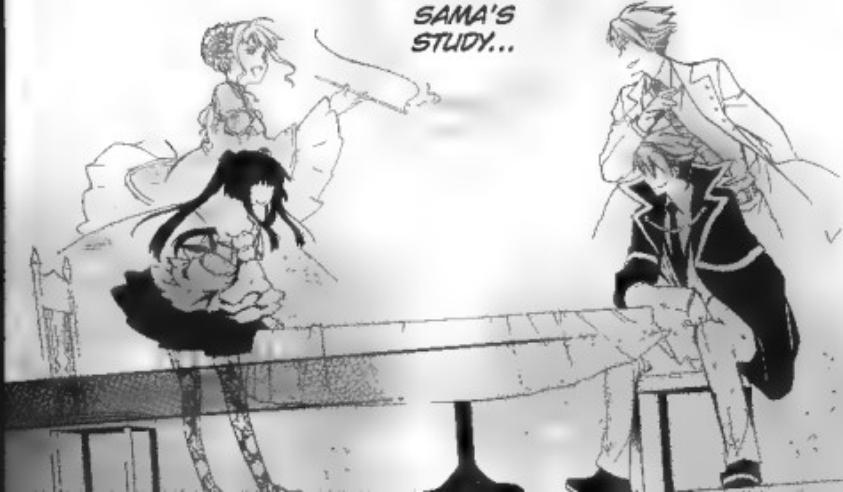
ARE YOU
CERTAIN?
THERE ARE
MORE...

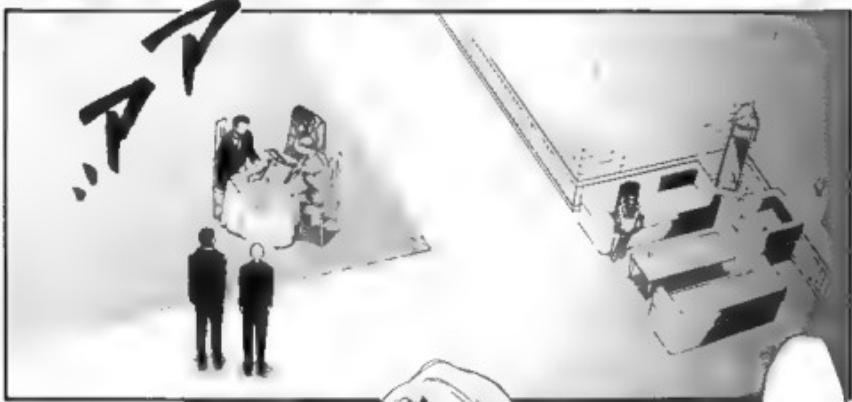
THAT'S
ENOUGH
FOR NOW.
I HAVE
UNDER-
STOOD
WHAT I
NEED.

SOUNDS
GOOD.



...THE TWO
I READ
ABOUT IN
FEATHERINE-
SAMA'S
STUDY...





GENJI-SAN,
GOLDA-SAN.

HOW
THEY
WERE
KILLED
AIN'T THE
PROBLEM!
THE ONLY
THING
THAT
MATTERS
IS WHO
KILLED THEM!

WITHOUT
A DOUBT.

Y-
YES!

AFTER
SENDING THE
CHILDREN TO
THE GUEST-
HOUSE, WE
LOCKED
EVERYTHING
UP AT ONCE.

TONIGHT
WAS A
SPECIAL
CASE.

YER SAYIN'
THAT DURING
THE FAMILY
MEETING, ALL
THE DOORS AND
WINDOWS IN THE
MANSION WERE
LOCKED...?

EXACTLY!
IF Y'ALL
REALLY
LOCKED UP
TIGHT, THEY
COULDN'TA
GOT IN!

WHY WOULD
BATTLER
AND
MARIA-
CHAN BE
IN THE
MANSION,
THEN!?

WELL,
THAT
DOESN'T
MAKE
SENSE...



HE WAS
NOT IN THE
SERVANTS'
ROOM.

GOLDA WAS
RETRIEVING
BEVERAGES AT
THE TIME, ON
THE PARTY'S
ORDERS.

MY...MY
WIFE SET
UP THAT
SHIFT.

WHY
DID YOU
LEAVE THE
SERVANTS'
ROOM
EMPTY!?

IT
MAKES
NO
SENSE!

AND WHY
WOULD
THE HEAD
SERVANT BE
WORKING
THE GUEST-
HOUSE
INSTEAD!?

WHY
IS THERE
ONLY ONE
SERVANT
IN THE
MANSION
ON
SUCH AN
IMPORTANT
DAY!?

GOU
CLENCH

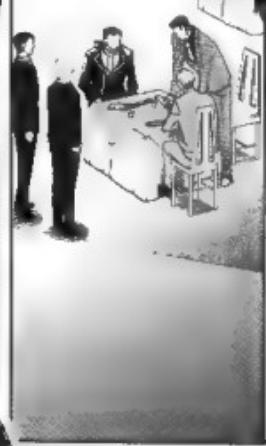
BUT IF
WE'D HAD
JUST ONE
MORE
PERSON,
THINGS
WOULDA
BEEN
DIFFER-
ENT,
DON'CHA
THINK!?

BUT
IF...

NO DOUBT
SHE HOPE THAT
OBSERVANT,
CONSIDERATE
GOLDA WOULD
KNOW TO SERVE
STYLISH DRINKS
DURING THE
MEETING.

WELL?

WELL
!?





I
UNDERSTAND
YOUR DISTRESS,
AND I
SYMPATHIZE.

KOTO
CHUNO



AND
THEN THEY
FORGOT TO
LOCK THE
DOOR AGAIN
AFTERWARD.

...OR
PERHAPS
SOMEONE
GREETED
BATTLER-SAN
AND MARIA-
SAN AT THE
DOOR AS THEY
RETURNED
FROM THE
GUEST-
HOUSE.

EITHER
GOUDA-SAN'S
LOCKING WAS
IMPERFECT...

...WE DO NOT
KNOW IF SUCH
AN EVENT WOULD
HAVE ANY
CONNECTION TO
THE INFILTRATION
OF THIS MYSTERY
KILLER.

HOW-
EVER...



IT IS SUCH A LARGE MANSION, AFTER ALL.

THEY MIGHT HAVE SNEAKED INSIDE AND BEEN HIDING FOR SOME TIME BEFORE THE INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE.



I UNDERSTAND THE INSTINCT TO DOUBT SOMEONE, BUT FOR NOW, I ASK FOR CALM.



WE OUGHT TO HATE THE KILLER...

...NOT GOURDA, WHO SIMPLY HAPPENED TO BE ON DUTY.



...OUR GUEST IS CORRECT.





IT
WILL BE
HELPFUL
IF YOU
ARE THERE,
IN CASE
ANYTHING
HAPPENS.

I THINK
SHANNON-
SAN,
KANON-
SAN, AND
KUMASAWA-
SAN ARE
NERVOUS
TOO.

GENJI-SAN,
GOLIDA-SAN,
YOU OUGHT TO
GO WITH HIM.

...I
UNDER-
STAND.

WE WILL
JOIN YOU
SHORTLY,
SO GO
AHEAD AND
DON'T WAIT
FOR US.

TH-
THAT'S
A GOOD
POINT.

JUST CALL
IF ANYTHING
HAPPENS.





I WANT YOU
TO LISTEN
CAREFULLY TO
WHAT I HAVE
TO SAY.

THIS INCIDENT
OCCURRED IN A
BRIEF SPAN OF
TIME, DURING A
SHORT BREAK IN
THE MEETING.

ARE
YOU
READY
?



...IS NOT
A SPUR-OF-
THE-MOMENT,
INDISCRIMINATE
ACT.

MURDERING
SIX PEOPLE IN
SUCH A SHORT
TIME WITHOUT
DRAWING
NOTICE...

THIS WAS
EXECUTED
BY SOMEONE
INVOLVED,
SOMEONE
INTIMATELY
FAMILIAR WITH
THE WORKINGS
OF THE
MANSION AND
ISLAND.



THE ONLY
PEOPLE
PRESENT
WERE PART
OF THE
FAMILY
MEETING.

THE
MANSION
WAS LOCKED
FROM THE
INSIDE
DURING THE
CRIMES.



I AIN'T GOT
A SHRED
OF DOUBT
IN MY MIND
ABOUT
KRAUSS-
NIISAN OR
RUDOLF-
KUN!

YEAH,
EXACTLY!

IT'S
IMPO-
SIBLE!

YOU
...
YOU
MEAN
...?

WH-
WHAT
ARE
YOU
SAYING?
THAT
ANIKI
KILLED
KYRIE
AND
THE
OTHERS
!?

OR
AM I
SUPPOSED
TO
SUSPECT
HIDE-
YOSHI
HERE!?

...THAT
KRAUSS,
RUDOLF,
HIDEYOSHI,
AND GOUDA
WERE
NOT THE
CULPRITS.

AFTER ALL,
BATTER
ASSURED
ME IN RED
TRUTH...

)
17
KOKUN
OHO

IT'S
UNTHINKABLE
THAT YOU
WOULD KILL
EACH OTHER'S
WIVES.

YES.

AND YET...

HE
WAS IN A
POSITION
TO ACT
WITHOUT
ANYONE
ELSE'S
KNOWL-
EDGE.

HE WAS
IN THE
WAITING
ROOM
THROUGH-
OUT THE
MEETING.

BUT
WHAT
ABOUT
GOUDA-
SAN?

AND GOUDA-SAN IS JUST
A SERVANT.
YOU ARE ALL
STRANGERS
TO HIM.

I CAN'T
IMAGINE HE
HAD THE TIME
TO GET AROUND
TO KILLIN' SIX
PEOPLE.

BUT DURING
THE BREAK,
GOUDA-SAN
BROUGHT
DRINKS ON THE
CART AND
SPENT A LOT
OF TIME
WITH US.

BUT HE
MIGHT HAVE
BEEN ABLE TO
BRING IN
SOMEONE WHO
DID CARRY OUT
THE ACT.

PRECISELY.

SU
COMING

I SUSPECT
THE SERVANTS
ON TWO
COUNTS.

AND GIVEN
THAT ROSA-SAN
AND MARIA-SAN
WERE TOGETHER
AT THE TIME AND
KILLED WITHOUT
A FUSS,
THAT SUGGESTS
MULTIPLE
KILLERS.

FIRST, THE
FACT THAT
THEY KNEW THE
VICTIMS. THERE
WERE NO SIGNS
OF STRUGGLE
AT ANY OF THE
CRIME SCENES.

WHAT'S SO
SUSPICIOUS
ABOUT
THAT?

WHAT IF
THE ROOMS
WERE LOCKED
WITHOUT
CHAINS?

THE
SECOND IS
THE CHAIN-
LOCKED
DOORS...

IN ORDER FOR THE SERVANTS NOT TO BE SUSPECTED, GIVEN THAT THEY CARRY THE MASTER KEYS AROUND, THE CHAIN LOCKS WERE NECESSARY.

AHH, I SEE.

WITH A SINGLE MASTER KEY, ANYONE COULD GET IN OR OUT.

WELL, IT AINT' A SEALED ROOM, THEN.



PRECISELY.

PUT ANOTHER WAY...IF THERE WERE NO CHAIN LOCKS, THE ONES WITH THE MASTER KEYS WOULD IMMEDIATELY ATTRACT UNWANTED ATTENTION.

PLACING THE CHAINS REMOVES SUSPICION FROM THEM.



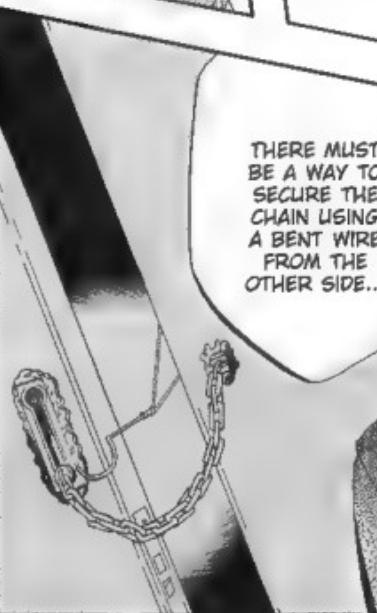
I DO NOT
THINK IT IS
PHYSICALLY
IMPOSSIBLE.



BUT HOW
DO IT!? CAN YA
EVEN CLOSE
A CHAIN LOCK
FROM OUTSIDE
THE DOOR?

THERE MUST
BE A WAY TO
SECURE THE
CHAIN USING
A BENT WIRE
FROM THE
OTHER SIDE...

SO THE
ONLY
ONES...
WHO STAND
TO GAIN
FROM THE
CHAINS...
...?
ARE...
THE
SERVANTS
...?





THEY
NOW
SUSPECT
THE
SERVANTS.

HA-
HA-HA,
JUST
AS I
HOPED!



...BUT IT'S
ALREADY
BEEN
DECLARED IN
RED TRUTH
THAT THESE
SEALED
ROOMS
CAN'T HAVE
BEEN
SECURED
FROM THE
OUTSIDE.

YES, IT
MIGHT BE
POSSIBLE
IN THEIR
MINDS...



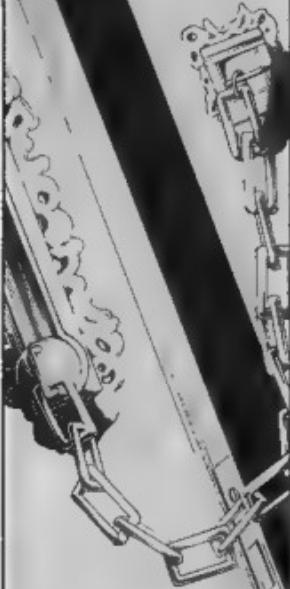
IT'S
NOT
IMPOSSI-
BLE.

SHE'S
RIGHT
...

MEANING...



...THAT IT MUST BE IMPOSSIBLE TO MANIPULATE THE CHAIN LOCKS FROM THE OUTSIDE...



VERY
GOOD!

SUCH
MANIPULATION
IS CHILD'S
PLAY WITH MY
GIFT FOR GAB
AND ACTING
GRAVITAS.

THEY'VE
FALLEN FOR
MY FALSE
THEORY.
TEE
HEE!

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK,
EVERY-
ONE...?

GAB CREAMO

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
OF BEING
THE WITCH-
SIDE
PLAYER?



IT'S
AN ODD
FEELING.

...SO I
FIGURED THE
GAME WAS
STACKED IN
FAVOR OF
THE WITCH.

PLAYING THE
HUMAN FELT
LIKE SHOOTING
A GUN AT
INVISIBLE
FIGURES IN
THE MIST...



...I REALIZE
THAT EVEN A
SINGLE STRAY
BULLET CAN BE
FATAL TO MY
POSITION. IT'S
AN INSANE
GAME.

BUT NOW
THAT
I'M THE
WITCH...



BUT YOU
TRUSTED
THAT
EVENTU-
ALLY I
WOULD
FIGURE
IT OUT...

...AND
REPEATED
THE GAME
AS MUCH
AS YOU
COULD.

YEAH.



AND YOU
PLAYED A
NUMBER
OF THESE
GAMES
WITH THE
OLD ME.



AND AT
THE VERY,
VERY END
OF THOSE
GAMES
AGAINST
ME...

...WHAT
DID YOU
FIGURE
OUT?



IT'S NOT
THAT I DON'T
WANT TO TELL
YOU...

.....

...NOW
OUR
POS-
TIONS
ARE
SWAP-
PED.



IT'S
JUST...

...I TOO
WANT TO
BELIEVE IN
MIRACLES,
JUST
A LITTLE
BIT.





THAT WAS
YOUR
DESIRE, I
BELIEVE.

SO I'M
GOING TO
TAKE YOU
OUTSIDE OF
THE GAME
BOARD.

...DESIRE?

MY...

.....

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WHATEVER NONSENSE SHE COOKS UP NEXT.

I'M GOING FOR A PEEK AT OUR OPPONENT.

...I COULD SERVE BATTLER-SAN BETTER BY RETURNING TO MY OLD SELF...

PERHAPS, RATHER THAN JUST WATCHING OVER HIS GAME...

SO BATTLER-SAN REALLY IS LOOKING FOR THE OLD BEATRICE THROUGH ME...

ANYTHING MORE IS A SECRET.

AH...

BABA
GOGO





AND DURING THAT TIME, I CONFIRMED THAT THEY WERE NOT INTERFERED WITH FROM THE OUTSIDE IN ANY WAY!

PERA
PERA CHAMBALE

AND UNTIL KRALISS'S GROUP BROKE THE SEALS, THEY REMAINED PERFECTLY INTACT.

IT WAS THE VICTIMS WHO CREATED EACH OF THE SEALED ROOMS.

ALL YOU DID WAS CONFIRM THE SEALED-ROOM MURDERS WERE PERFECTLY EXECUTED.

...WAIT A SECOND.



ARE YOU SAYING THAT WITHOUT DETECTIVE'S PRIVILEGES, YOU CANNOT BEAT BATTLER...?

WHAAAT?

IT'S JUST, ER...

THIS IS A DIFFERENT WAY OF COMPETING THAN BEFORE, SO I'M NOT USED TO IT YET...

I CAN EASILY DEFEAT THAT INCOMPETENT BUFFON WITHOUT PRIVILEGES!

I DIDN'T MEAN THAT, MASTER!



...THAT
DOES NOT
HOLD THE
SAME
VALUE IN
A WITCH'S
GAME.

NO
MATTER
HOW
EXCELLENT
A HUMAN
DETECTIVE
I MIGHT
MAKE...

YES...

A WITCH'S GAME IS EITHER
ZERO OR ONE HUNDRED.

IN OTHER
WORDS,
IT IS RED
TRUTH, OR
IT IS NOT.
THAT IS
ALL.

...BUT BEING
DEPRIVED OF
THAT SINGLE
POINT MAKES IT
WORTH ZERO IN
THE WORLD OF
WITCHES.

MY DETECTIVE
ABILITY IS AT 99,
AND WITH THE
EXTRA
1% GRANTED
BY MASTER'S
DETECTIVE
PRIVILEGES,
I CAN REACH
100...

PUT
ANOTHER WAY,
AN AUTOPSY
WITH
DETECTIVE'S
PRIVILEGE CAN
DETERMINE
THE STATUS
OF THE BODY
WITH 100%
ACCURACY.

BUT WITHOUT IT,
THERE MIGHT BE
A 99% SUCCESS
RATE WITH A 1%
CHANCE OF
MISDIAGNOSIS—
AND THAT CAN BE
USED TO OVERTURN
THE OUTCOME.

NEAR-
DEATH STATE
THROUGH
DRUGS

SO EVEN MY
EXCELLENT
AIDE DLANOR
CANNOT USE
HER RED
BLADE NOW!

...MAKE
THE
DECLARA-
TION?

IF YOU
REALY
WANT TO,
WHY DON'T
YOU
JUST...

...AND
DLANOR
CAN CHOP
HIM TO BITS
WITH HER
RED SWORD
AND KNOX'S
COMMAND-
MENTS.

THEN
YOU'LL
HAVE THE
POWER OF
A HUN-
DRED...

THIS GAME WAS
ALREADY OVER
WHEN BATTLER
REACHED THE
TRUTH IN THE
LAST ROUND.

NO...

N—







YOU
VER-
MIN!

YOU
SCUM!
YOU
TRASH!

THAT
WOULD BE
A MIRACLE
WORTHY
OF ME.

...SHOW
ME YOU CAN
WIN UNDER
THESE DREADFUL
CIRCUMSTANCES
WITHOUT
PRIVILEGES.

IN THAT
CASE...

OW!



IF YOU
CAN DO
THAT, ONLY
THEN WILL
I FORGIVE
YOU.

YES,
MASTER!
I WILL
SHOW
YOU THAT
VERY
MIRACLE
...!

Y...
YES!





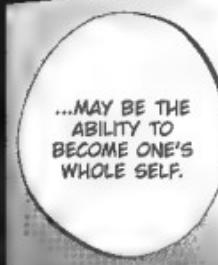
HIRA
GLITTERO



I WANTED
TO ASK
YOU SOME-
THING...



DID YOU
CALL FOR
ME, MY
SISTER?





IN THAT
CASE,
THEN IT IS
TRUE THAT
I CANNOT
SEIZE MY
OWN
HAPPINESS
...

...WITHOUT
TRAMPLING
THAT OF
GEORGE-SAN,
SHANNON-
SAN, KANON-
SAN, AND
JESSICA-
SAN.



THE
SAME
IS
TRUE
OF ALL
THREE
COUPLES.



IF
ANOTHER
OF
THEM IS
BROUGHT
TOGETHER,
THEY WILL
HAVE
TRAMPLED
YOU AND
THE OTHER
COUPLE.



PERHAPS THE
VALUE OF LOVE
IS EQUIVALENT
TO THE PRICE OF
BROKEN ROMANCE
BETWEEN
TWO OTHER
COUPLES.

BUN
CLUB

THIS IS
DISHEART-
ENING, MY
SISTER.

YOU'RE
RIGHT.

...THEN
VICTORY
WILL
NEVER
COME TO
YOU.

IF YOU
CANNOT
PRIORITY
YOUR OWN
DESIRE TO
MAKE BATTLER
HAPPY OVER
THE FEELINGS
OF THE
LOSERS...



I AM
SORRY TO
ALL OF THE
OTHERS...

...BUT
THERE
CAN BE
NO HARD
FEELINGS.

GOOD.

...IF I LOSE
AND ONE
OF THE OTHER
LOVERS WINS,
I WILL
GIVE THEM MY
SINCEREST
BLESSING.

AND...

...AND
WIN THE
MIRACLE
OF MAGIC.

...WITHOUT
LONGING OR
REGRET...

...I WILL
FIGHT MY
HARDEST...

THAT
WAY...

I WILL
NOT GIVE
IN.

Chapter 15: Arrogance and a Trap





IS YOUR
SERIAL
MURDER
GOING
WELL?



I TOOK A
LOOK AT
THE FIRST
NIGHT. VERY
IMPRESSIVE
SEALED ROOMS.



OH,
BATTLER.

MY ROLE
IS NOT TO
CARRY OUT
SERIAL
MURDERS.

...I
DON'T
KNOW.

NO.

...WINNING THE
GAME AS THE
WITCH AND
PROVING THAT
I UNDERSTAND
THE GAME TO
THE FULLEST.

IT IS TO
USE THAT
PREMISE TO
PRESENT A
MYSTERY THAT
YOU CANNOT
SOLVE WITHOUT
A MAGICAL
EXPLANATION...

THERE'S
ONE MORE
THING.

TO SETTLE
THE SCORE
WITH ERIKA,
WHO MANAGED
TO FIGHT TO
AN EVEN TIE
LAST TIME.





YEAM

AN

... BATTLER
...

AN
EVEN

...
TIE
...?

ERIKA AND
DLANOR'S
BATTLE OF
RED AND
BLUE LAST
TIME WAS
INCREDIBLE.

SO,
ERIKA...
...WHAT
HAPPENED
TO DLANOR
THIS TIME?

IS IT
JUST YOU
NOW?

BUT ALL
THAT I CAN
DO NOW IS
SERVE AS LADY
ERIKA'S
SECRETARY.

NO, I
AM RIGHT
HERE.

HA
CTAO

HER GREATEST
STRENGTH WAS
THE PRODUCT
OF ERIKA'S
SLEUTHING AND
YOUR RED
BLADE WORKING
TOGETHER.



WHY CAN'T
YOU USE
YOUR RED
SWORD?

WHY
DON'T
YOU
FIGHT
WITH
HER?

YOU TOLD
ERIKA NOT
TO DECLARE
HERSELF THE
DETECTIVE.

IT'S
YOU.

CHIRAL
COPPER

4
7

.....



THERE'S NO
NEED FOR A
PUPPETEER
LIKE YOU
MANIPULATING
THINGS.

OH?

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

11

THIS IS
BETWEEN
ME AND
ERIKA.

I AM
SIMPLY AN
OBSERVER,
STAVING OFF
BOREDOM.

PUPPE-
TEER?
HOW OUT-
RAGEOUS.

AN
OBSERVER
IS SOMEONE
WHO SITS IN
HER SEAT AND
WATCHES.



...THEN I AM
WITHIN MY
RIGHTS AS
GAME MASTER
TO HAVE YOU
BANNED FROM
THIS GAME.

IF YOU
INTEND TO
HARASS AND
INTIMIDATE
THE
PERFORMERS
TO INTERFERE
WITH THE
PROCESS
...



AND TRUTH
WITHOUT AN
OBSERVER
MIGHT AS
WELL BE
FANTASY.

AND
WHY
DON'T
YOU?

OH.

...YOUR
AUDIENCE
ARE
OBSERVERS.

THE
THING
IS...

...YOU CANNOT
BE WITHOUT
AN IMPARTIAL
OBSERVER.

IF YOU
WANT TO
END BEATO'S
GAME...

WRONG.

THE
GAME IS
OVER,
ERIKA.

KAI
OTAKO

WE CAN
ENACT
OUR
TRUTH
ON OUR
OWN.

...SO
AS I
WARNED, I'M
BANISHING
YOU TO THE
WORST
POSSIBLE
FRAGMENT
WORLD AND
HURLING IT
INTO THE
ABYSS OF
THE FOR-
GOTTEN!

YOU
WEREN'T
ABLE TO
REMOVE
THE STAIN
OF YOUR
DEFEAT...

I PROMISE!
I PROMISE
I WILL BE VICTORIOUS!!

PLEASE, JUST LET ME FIGHT BATTLER TO THE FINISH!

M...
MASTER!

HIC!

I CAN'T BE LEFT A LOSER...

I-I DON'T WANT TO BE BANISHED
...TO OBLIVION. ...





...AND BATTLER
WANTS TO MAKE
THIS THE FINAL
GAME AND PROVE
THAT HE'S
REACHED THE
TRUTH. RIGHT?

LISTEN
...
ERIKA WANTS
TO FIGHT AND
MAKE UP FOR
HER MISTAKE TO
REGAIN BERN'S
FAVOR...





AND I
ONLY LIKE
YOUR GAME
BECAUSE
THAT'S
WHAT IT
OFFERS
TO ME.

DON'T
PATRON-
IZE ME.

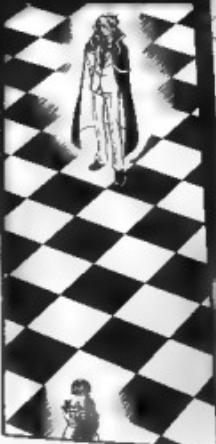
I JUST
LOVE
SEEING
BERN'S
FACE GET
TWISTED.

IF YOU THINK
I'M EASY TO
MANIPULATE TO
YOUR LIKING,
YOU'LL END UP
WORSE THAN
BURNED...

DLANOR
CAN'T USE
HER RED BLADE
BECAUSE
THERE WAS NO
DETECTIVE
DECLARATION.

HEH!

HMPH.





I WILL
NOT...

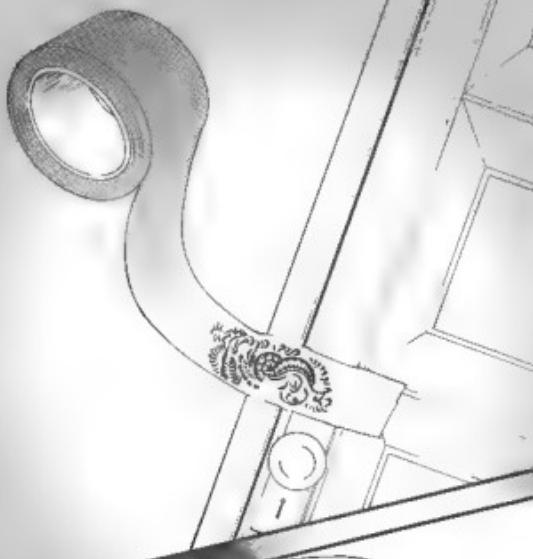


AND YOUR POWERS ARE USELESS WITHOUT THE PROCLAMATION, DLANOR?



SHE CANNOT DEFY HER MASTER'S ORDERS. LORD BATTLER, LADY ERIKA IS STILL A PAWN.





FOR
EXAMPLE
...

...LADY
ERIKA'S
SEALS
MADE OF
MASKING
TAPE.

THEREFORE,
ANY TRUTH
RELATING TO THE
SEALS ALLOWS
ME TO DRAW MY
RED KEY.

LADY
BERNKADEL
HAS ALREADY
GRANTED THAT
THOSE SEALS
ARE EQUAL IN
VALUE TO RED
TRUTH.



I JUST FIND
IT BORING TO
FLATTEN YOU
WHEN YOU'RE
NOT EVEN A
DETECTIVE.

IT'S
NOT LIKE THAT.

D-DON'T
YOU DARE
PLAY
SOME PITY
MOVE!

WHAT
ARE
YOU
PLOT-
TING!?



I
SEE...

IT MUST
BE TEARING
HER APART
INSIDE NOT
TO BE
ABLE TO
ANNOUNCE
IT.

SURE,
HER GOAL
MIGHT BE
TO EXPOSE
MYSTERIES
WITHOUT
A SECOND
THOUGHT...

...BUT SHE
AT LEAST
HAD PRIDE
IN BEING A
DETECTIVE.

GNHH!

...BUT THE
GAME CANNOT
BE A GAME
WITHOUT ERIKA
TO PLAY THE
HUMAN SIDE.

ERIKA
MIGHT
BE MY
FOE...

I WILL
NOT MIS-
REPRESENT
BEATO'S
GAME.

THE OLD
BEATO...

...WAS
THE SAME
WAY.

I VIEWED
HER
SOLELY
AS AN
ENEMY...

BUT EVEN
THOUGH SHE
SAW ME AS
AN OPPONENT,
I MYSELF WAS
NEVER HER
PERSONAL
"ENEMY"

...I
SWEAR...

ERIKA.

YOU'RE
FREE NOT
TO DECLARE
YOURSELF
THE
DETECTIVE.

THAT'S
BEEN
MY
INTEN-
TION
ALL
ALONG
...!

YOU HAVE
PLANOR,
GERTRUDE,
CORNELIA—
YOU'RE NOT
ALONE.

BUT YOU
HAVE
EXCELLENT
COMPAN-
IONS.

I'VE
EXPERIENCED
PLAYING THE
HUMAN SIDE
SEVERAL
TIMES. I
KNOW HOW
HARD IT IS.





SO FOR
BATTLES BASED
AROUND THOSE
ROOMS, YOU
SHOULD BE ABLE
TO USE YOUR
RED BLADE.

I WILL
ALLOW YOU
THE USE OF
YOUR SPECIAL
TAPE FOR
JUST THREE
ROOMS.
FOR THE
TRIO OF
PLANOR,
GERTRUDE,
AND CORNELIA.

...ARE YOU
CERTAIN?

LORD
BAT-
TLER...

OOOH!
HOW
MANLY!

SHE
RAISED
THE
STAKES,
SO I
HAVE THE
RIGHT
TO RAISE
THEM
TOO.

IT'S NOT
MUCH OF A
VICTORY IF
I BEAT A
NON-
DETECTIVE
ERIKA.

YOU WILL
REGRET
THIS...

Y...



...CAN
I FEEL
FREE TO
COMPLETELY
ANNIHILATE
YOU!



ONLY
THEN...

KA
CONO

C'MON,
ERIKA.
USE THIS
WEAPON
TO FIGHT
ME FOR
REAL!

HOLD
YOUR
HEAD
HIGH AND
USE IT
THREE
TIMES!



WE
ACCEPT
FOUR
GIFT OF
THREE
BOXING
MORTH
OF
TAPES

HOW-
EVER

...MAY WE
UNDERSTAND
THAT THE GIFTING
OF THIS TAPE
REPLACES THE
MONSTICKY TAPE
GIVEN TO LADY
ERIKA BY MRS.
KUMASAWA
EARLIER?



I'LL
REWRITE
THE
STORY

VEAH,
THAT'S
FINE.

THIS
CHANGE
IS NOW
IMPLE-
MENTED.

...BUT THERE
WAS ONLY
ENOUGH LEFT
TO WORK
ON THREE
ROOMS.

...AND
CORRECT HER
ACTIONS TO
ALLOW FOR THE
USE OF THIS
PRIVILEGE.

LADY ERIKA
WILL NOW
RETURN TO
BEFORE THE
DISCOVERY
OF THE FIRST
NIGHT...

WHEN
KUMASAWA-SAN
GAVE ERIKA THE
TAPE LATE ON THE
FIRST DAY, IT HAD
ENOUGH COHESION
TO FUNCTION AS
A SEAL...



UNDER-
STOOD.

AND NOW SHE
GETS TO GO
BACK KNOWING
WHICH ROOMS
THE MURDERS
TAKE PLACE IN.



HEE
HEE.

YOU SEEM
TO HAVE
GROWN VERY
ARROGANT
AS THE GAME
MASTER.

HEE
HEE!

TO MAKE
ALLOWANCES
FOR YOUR
PITIFUL
OPPONENT?

HEE

DOES IT
PLEASE
YOU?

NOW
THERE'S
NO WORRY
ABOUT
WASTING
THEM ON
UNUSED
ROOMS.

THAT'S
QUITE AN
ADVAN-
TAGE.

SHUT
UP.

THIS ISN'T
ARROGANCE
OR
PAMPERING.

DON'T GET
THE WRONG
IDEA.





THAT'S JUST
GOOD MANNERS
WHEN IT COMES
TO GAMES.



OF
COURSE.



THIS GAME
IS MEANT TO
PROVE THAT
I UNDERSTAND
BEATO'S
TRUTH.



BUT
TRUST THE
PLAYER.

DOUBT YOUR
OPPONENT
IN THE
GAME.



THANK
YOU...

R

THANK
YOU.

UNH...



...
NM.

HIC!



...AS
THAT!

...AS
EASY...

AND
IT'S...

PURU
SHUNETO
7°
7°
16

HE
GAVE...

THE DULL-
WITTED
FOOL FELL
FOR IT!

HE
ACTUALLY
BOUGHT MY
WHOLE SOB
STORY AND
GAVE ME
TAPE!

...ERIKA
FURUDO...
TAPE!

WHEN YOU
BECOME GAME
MASTER, IT'S
HARD NOT TO
LET THAT GODLY
FEELING GO TO
YOUR HEAD!

I
KNOW
HOW IT
GOES!

HEE
HEE
HEE!

BUM-BLING
BAT-TLER,
THE BUM-BLING BUM!

BUMBLING
BATTLER,
BUMBLING BUM!

I LOVE THE
WAY THAT
ROLLS
OFF THE
TONGUE!

...IT WAS
NICE
KNOWING
HIM!

A BUM-BLING GAME MASTER.
A BUM-BLING MISTAKE.
BUMBLING ARROGANCE,
BUMBLING DEFEAT.



IF THAT
BUMBLING BATTLER
ACTUALLY THINKS
HE HAS ME AT A
DISADVANTAGE,
WELL...

HA!





I
EXPECTED
THAT THIS
WOULD BE
A TRUE,
SERIOUS
FIGHT WITH
NO
PUNCHES
PULLED...

...WILL
PROVE
TO BE
FATAL.



INDEED!
THIS IS A
VICTORY
FOR LOVE!

FIRST—
CONGRAT-
ULATIONS,
FURFURI

BAAH
GRAND

AND
WE ARE
HERE TO
SING ITS
PRAISES

KI
(LAUGH)

JUST GET
ON WITH IT
AND TELL
US WHAT
THE NEXT
TRIAL IS.

BUZZ
OFF
WITH THIS
CRAP.

THE ONLY
TIME TO SING
EACH OTHER'S
PRAISES IS
ONCE WE'VE
BEATEN THE
TRIAL AND
EARNED OUR
MIRACLE OF
MAGIC.

SHE'S
RIGHT.

YES!

THAT'S
EXACTLY
RIGHT!

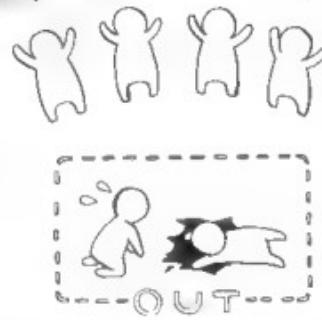


...YOU
HAVE TO
KILL ONE
OF THE
SIX!!!





SEE? THAT
MEANS ONE
PAIR WILL
DROP OUT.



NATURALLY,
THE LOVER
WHOSE
PARTNER IS
KILLED WILL
BE DIS-
QUALIFIED.



POW
(PROOF)

SO I SUPPOSE THE TRICK WOULD BE TO FIGHT IN A SITUATION THAT FAVERS YOU!

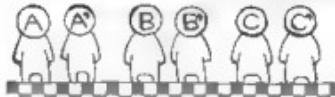
IN A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT, IT IS THE LUCK OF THE MOMENT THAT DETERMINES THE WINNER!

HEU FIGHT

WOULDN'T THAT FREEZE EVERYONE...?

AND IN A THREE-WAY FIGHT?

...THEIR ONLY CHOICE IS TO PAIR UP AND CONCENTRATE ATTACKS ON A SINGLE TARGET.



IF SIX PERFECT EQUALS WANT TO FIGHT IN AN ADVANTAGEOUS WAY...



BUT IN THAT CASE, THE TARGET'S PARTNER WILL NATURALLY JOIN IN TO OPPOSE YOU.

IN OTHER WORDS...
IT WILL NEVER BE A TWO-ON-ONE FIGHT.

...AND DECIDE WHICH SIDE TO HELP, ENSURING THAT THE OTHER IS FINISHED OFF...

WHICH ONE DO WE PICK?



AND IF TWO PAIRS FACE OFF, THE THIRD PAIR CAN WATCH WITHOUT ASSUMING ANY RISK...

AS SOON AS ONE OF THE FIGHTS FINISHES, THE TRIAL IS OVER.

WHY DON'T ALL SIX JUST FIGHT AGAINST THE PERSON NEXT TO THEM AT THE SAME TIME?

IT MEANS THAT BEING THE FIRST TO ACT WON'T HELP YOU.

THAT'S TROUBLE-SOME.

WE'LL ALL
BE HOPING
THAT
SOMEONE
ELSE LOSES
FIRST.

IN
THAT CASE,
EVERYONE
WILL ACT
PASSIVELY
WITHOUT
FIGHTING
TOO HARD.

THAT'S
IMPOSSI-
BLE.

IN CONCLUSION,
THE FACT THAT
WE'RE ALL
MATHEMATICALLY
EQUAL IN
STRENGTH MAKES
IT UNLIKELY WE'LL
REACH A FINISH.

IF OUR
LEVELS WERE
UNCERTAIN,
THAT MIGHT
HAVE MADE
THE DUELS
INTERESTING.

.....

...BUT IF WE'RE COMPLETELY EQUAL, THE FIGHTS ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM A GAME OF ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS.

...AFTER LOSING AT A STUPID GAME OF ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!

BUT NO ONE'S GOING TO HAPPILY STEP DOWN AND ADMIT DEFEAT...

...THAT METHOD IS ACTUALLY A VERY RATIONAL ONE.

OF COURSE, IF YOU ASKED ME TO STAKE MY FATE ON THE OUTCOME OF A RANDOM NUMBER GENERATOR...

...I'D HAVE TO SAY, "NO, THANK YOU."

AND YET...

DETERMINE
WHO IS TO
BE SACRI-
FICED!!

CONSIDER
...

THIS IS
WHAT WE
WANT
YOU TO
AGONIZE
OVER!

KILL...

THAT
IS THE
NATURE OF THE
SECOND
TRIAL WE
HAVE SET
TO YOU!



Chapter 16: A Tiny Seam







NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THERE'S THIS STORY ABOUT TEN TONS OF HIDDEN GOLD.

IF A SHARE OF THAT IS UP FOR GRABS, THAT MIGHT PROMPT SOME TO COMMIT A CRIME.







ONE
WAS THE
COUSINS'
ROOM...



...WITH
KRAUSS,
RUDOLF,
JESSICA,
GENJI,
GOLIDA, AND
KANON.



KACHA
COLICO
ナナ
ナナ

LET'S
GO,
THEN.

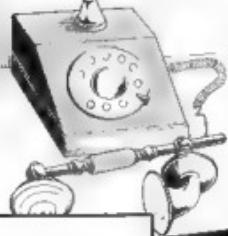
HIDEYOSHI-
SAN IS
SPLITTING
THEM INTO
THE ROOMS
UPSTAIRS.



...AND
FILED
INTO TWO
ROOMS
ON THE
SECOND
FLOOR
OF THE
GUEST-
HOUSE.

SO ALL
OF THE
SURVIVORS
ASIDE
FROM
KINZOU
SPLIT
UP...



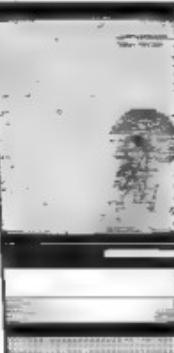


THE PHONE LINES WERE DOWN,
POSSIBLY DUE TO THE CULPRIT...

...MEANING THEY WOULD HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE SHIP DUE TO COME THE NEXT DAY TO CONTACT THE POLICE.

SO THE SOONEST THE SHIP WOULD LIKELY ARRIVE WAS IN TWO DAYS, AFTER THE STORM PASSED.

BUT THE WEATHER REPORT INDICATED THE STORMY SEAS CAUSED BY THE TYPHOON WOULD CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE FOLLOWING DAY.



THE OTHER WAS THE ADJACENT ROOM...



...WITH HIDEYOSHI, GEORGE, SHANNON, KUMASAWA, NANJOU, AND ERIKA.

KACHICCO

KACHICCO

...THEY WOULD HAVE TO SPEND TWO WHOLE NIGHTS LOCKED IN THESE ROOMS.

KACHICCO



TREATED PROPERLY,
HE IS QUITE
EASY TO
CONTROL.

A MAN WHO'S LOST HIS COOL IS LIKE AN AGITATED DOG.

EVEN WITHOUT DETECTIVE'S PRIVILEGES, YOU'VE EFFECTIVELY CONTROLLED THE SCENE.

VERY WELL DONE.

...OVER
THE
COURSE
OF THE
FIFTH
GAME.

THIS TRICK
IS HOW
SOMEONE
AS YOUNG
AS ERIKA
WAS ABLE
TO GIVE
SO MANY
ORDERS TO
ADULTS...

...BUT
ONE OF
THE
DETEC-
TIVE'S
PRIVI-
LEGES IS
"CONTROL
OF THE
SCENE."

ERIKA
CANNOT
USE IT
THIS
TIME...

IN OTHER
WORDS,
ERIKA-SAN
WAS ACCEPTED
BECAUSE SHE
HAD THE
PERSONAL
SKILL TO
BEGIN WITH.

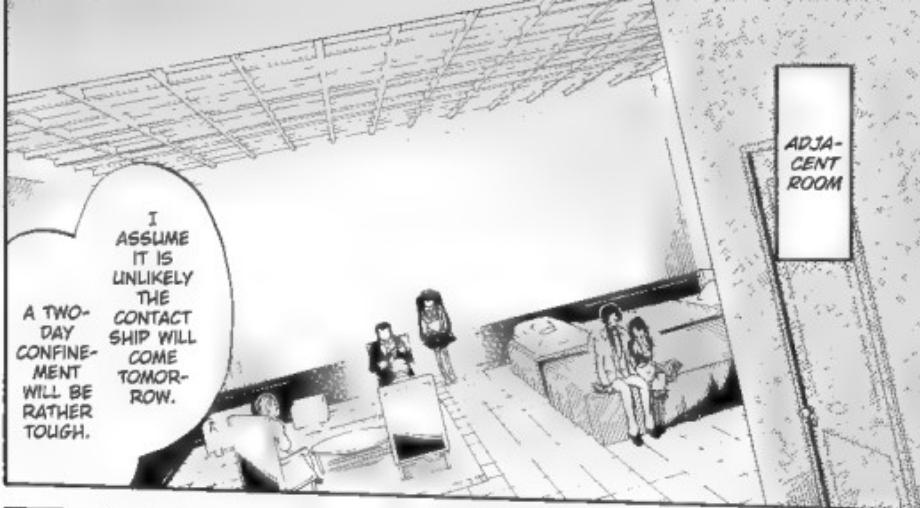
DETEC-
TIVE'S
PRIVI-
LEGES
ARE LIKE
MAGIC.

IF I HAD
DETECTIVE'S
PRIVILEGES,
I
WOULD HAVE
DONE SO.

BUT WHY
DIDN'T YOU JUST
GROUP THEM ALL
INTO ONE ROOM,
ERIKA?











DON'T
WORRY.

THE
DETECTIVE
IS NEVER
ATTACKED.



...RIGHT.

□
→
KOKIN
CHOD



GOOD
THINKIN'.
TAKE CARE
NOW.



IT WOULD
BE BETTER
TO RETURN
WHEN THERE'S
LIGHT OUT.

SO IN
AN HOUR OR
SO...NO, IT
WOULD BE TOO
DANGEROUS TO
WANDER ABOUT.
I WILL STAY
THERE UNTIL
MORNING.



I'M ONLY
GOING
NEXT
DOOR.

ERIKA-CHAN
REMEMBERED
A SPECIAL
TASK SHE'S
GOTTA DO.
SHE'S JUST
GOIN' NEXT
DOOR.

...WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING,
ERIKA-
CHAN?

WE SAID
THAT NO
ONE WOULD
LEAVE.



THANK YOU,
HIDEYOSHI-
SAN.
YOU MAY
GO BACK
INSIDE.

YOU'RE
GOOD.
COAST IS
CLEAR.







AND MAKE
SURE
NOBODY
LEAVES.

...TO ENSURE
THERE IS NO
REASON TO.

WE'VE
BROUGHT
EVERYTHING
WE MIGHT
NEED...





THE LOCATIONS OF THE SIX VICTIMS OF THE FIRST NIGHT ARE WHERE THEY WERE DISCOVERED!

YOU IN THE GUEST ROOM!

ROSA AND MARIA IN THE GUEST PARLOR.

EVA IN THE V.I.P. ROOM.

KYRIE IN KRAUSS'S STUDY.

NA-TSUHI IN HER ROOM.

I
ACKNOWLEDGE IT.

OR
ARE YOU ALREADY REFUSING TO REPEAT, RIGHT FROM THE START?

...FINE.





INSIDE THE ADJACENT ROOM ARE HIDEYOSHI, GEORGE, SHANNON, KUMASAWA, AND NANJOU!





YOU COULD
JUST LIST OFF
THE SIX NAMES
STARTING WITH
KRAUSS. WHY
USE SUCH A
VAGUE TERM?



WHY
WOULD YOU
USE THE
PHRASE
"EVERYONE
ELSE" FOR
THE COUSINS'
ROOM...?



I RE-
FUSE.



BECAUSE IT IS
TIRESOME TO
HAVE TO LIST
SIX SEPARATE
NAMES.



ARE YOU
CLAIMING
THAT THERE
MIGHT BE SOME
KIND OF TRICK
WITHIN THE
WORD "EVERY-
ONE"...?

WHY
DO YOU
ASK?

HEE
HEE!



THAT'S WEIRD.

...SIX ARE DEAD IN THE MANSION, AND FIVE ARE IN THE ADJACENT ROOM.
ON AN ISLAND WITH SEVENTEEN PEOPLE, NOT COUNTING ME AND KINZOU...



...TO FORCE ME TO REPEAT EACH OF THEM ACCURATELY.

SHE'D NORMALLY LIST ALL THE PRECISE NAMES...

HOW-EVER!

THIS MUST BE THE PROPER VIEW OF THINGS.

WHICH MEANS THE SIX LEFT ARE IN THE COUSINS' ROOM.

BUT THINKING THAT THE NUMBER OF UNLOCATED CHARACTERS IS ZERO IS QUITE A DANGEROUS TRAP!



...THEN SIX MORE, AND YOU SHOULD ARRIVE AT EXACTLY ZERO!

THERE ARE SEVENTEEN ON THE ISLAND, SO SUBTRACT SIX, THEN FIVE...



YES, EXACTLY.

SO KNOWING THE LOCATION BASED ON NOTHING BUT A NAME IS WORRISOME TO ME.

THEREFORE, I CHOSE TO EMPLOY THE TERM "EVERYONE."



...RIGHT.

THE THIRD GAME GAVE YOU QUITE A LOT OF GRIEF WITH THE TRICK ABOUT NAMES AND NUMBERS!





...YES,
I SEE.



...AGAINST
ANY FUTURE
TRICKS OF
YOURS THAT
I CANNOT
PREDICT
AHEAD OF
TIME.

THAT
CHOICE
WILL
ALLOW
ME TO
DEFEND...



...THAT A
MYSTERY
KILLER "X"
HAS SLIPPED
ONTO THE
ISLAND.



PURU-PURU
PIKOMARU

LET'S CALL "X"
BY THE NAME
"PURU-PURU
PIKOMARU."



IF YOU LIST
ALL THE NAMES
INDIVIDUALLY,
THIS PURU-PURU
PIKOMARU
CAN SLIP RIGHT
THROUGH THAT
NET.

BUT
THE TERM
"EVERYONE"
IS ENTIRELY
TOO BROAD.

...ERIKA
WILL BE ABLE
TO ESCAPE
BY PINNING
DOWN ALL THE
CRIMES ON
PURU-PURU
PIKOMARU.

NO. IF I
FLEE FROM
THE WORD
"EVERYONE"
NOW...

IS
THERE A
WAY TO
REPHRASE
THAT
BETTER?

...ABOUT
THE
WEIGHT OF
THE WORD
"EVERY-
ONE."

HEE
HEE
THINK
VERY, VERY
HARD...

HEE!

THE WITCH
PLAYER HAS TO
DESTROY ANY
POSSIBILITY
THAT A
HUMAN COULD
PULL IT OFF.



WHICH MEANS
THAT I NEED
TO RESPOND
TO ERIKA'S
DEMAND AND
USE THE TERM
"EVERYONE"...



I HAVE TO
CRUSH THE
POSSIBILITY
OF THIS
STUPID
PURU-PURU
PIKOMARU
CHARACTER
RIGHT NOW...



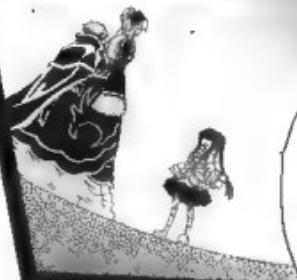
...OR IT
WILL BE
USED AS A
STAND-IN
FOR THE
WITCH.



BUT IT
IS ALSO A
MOVE THAT
YOU ARE
PUSHING
ME TO
PLAY.



EVEN
THE IDEAL
MOVE IS A
BAD ONE
WHEN THE
OPPONENT
WANTS
YOU TO
MAKE IT.



...AND MAKE
IT POSSIBLE TO
DENY ME AN
ESCAPE ROUTE
FOR YOUR
IMPOSSIBLE
CRIMES.



THAT WILL
ENSURE THAT
YOU HAVE
ALIBIS FOR
ALL OF THE
SURVIVORS...

WHAT
ARE
YOU SO
AFRAID
OF?

THIS IS
A VERY
POWERFUL
MOVE FOR
YOU.

RED
TRUTH CAN
SLICE APART
THE WEAK
THEORIES OF
THE HUMAN
SIDE...

...BUT IT
CAN ALSO
ACT AS A
TOEHOLD
FOR A
COUNTER-
ATTACK.

BUT IT
WILL ALSO
BE DIFFICULT
TO AVOID
THE WORD
"EVERYONE"
HERE...

VERY
TRUE
HERE.

IT HAS
DECISIVE
POWER...
BUT IT IS
NOT MEANT
TO BE
USED WITH
ABANDON.

SO
THE
RED
TRUTH
...

...IS A
TRE-
ASURED
HEIR-
LOOM.

...OF
HOW
BEATO
FELT.

I AM NOW
PAINFULLY
AWARE...

WE CAN
HOLD THIS
UNTIL
LATER.

WHAT
WILL IT
BE?

BEING
CARELESS
HERE WILL
ONLY
HURT THE
WITCH-SIDE
PLAYER...

IT'S
FINE.

NO...

I ACKNOWLEDGE
THAT EVERYONE
ELSE IS IN THE
COUSINS' ROOM.



YES, LADY ERIKA?

PASHI
GIRANO

PISHI
GIRANO

DIA
ORR
RIN

LET'S GET
STARTED,
THEN.



...I
UNDER-
STAND.



YES...

IT'S TIME
TO MAKE
USE OF THE
RIGHTS OUR
MAGNANIMOUS
GAME MASTER
GRANTED
TO US!



WITH
ALL DUE
RESPECT
...

...WE
HEAR
AND
OBEY!

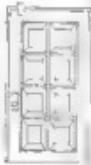


GERTRUDE,
CORNELIA
...
...WE
WILL USE
TWO OF
THE THREE
ROOMS'
WORTH OF
RIGHTS
GIVEN TO
US!





HEE



...WILL ALLOW
DLANOR TO USE
HER RED KEY—
WHICH CAN EVEN
CUT THROUGH THE
GAME MASTER'S
WORDS.

NOW ANY
FIGHT
REVOLVING
AROUND
THE SEAL
ON THESE
TWO
ROOMS...

TEE
HEE!

HEE!





THE HUMAN
PLAYER IS MEANT
TO ANSWER THE
WITCH'S QUESTION
IN THE FORM OF
HUMAN
ACCOMPLISHMENT.

YOU
ARE NOT
INCORRECT.



WHAT
IS IT?

SENIOR
AIDE...

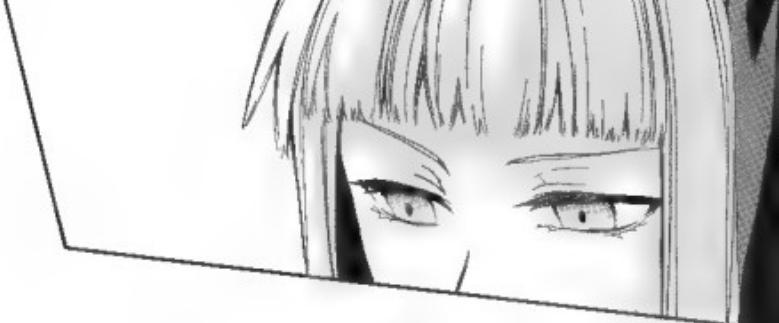
...I
RESPECT-
FULLY
INQUIRE.



THEN WHY
ARE LADY ERIKA
AND INQUISITOR
DLANOR SEEKING
TO REDUCE THE
NUMBER OF
HUMANS WHO CAN
HAVE COMMITTED
THE CRIME...?

I WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT IT MORE
ADVANTAGEOUS
TO THE HUMAN
PLAYER TO HAVE
MORE HUMANS
UNACCOUNTED FOR
AT ANY TIME.

IT IS NOT
YET KNOWN
WHAT KIND
OF INCIDENTS
MIGHT ARISE
AHEAD.



KNOW THAT LADY ERIKA AND THE CHIEF INQUISITOR...



...ARE NOT YET AT THE STAGE TO REVEAL THEIR STRATEGY.



I APOLOGIZE FOR MY DOUBT...



THE WITCH PRESENTS THE SEALED ROOM...



...AND THE HUMAN BREAKS THROUGH TO NULLIFY IT.



A SEALED ROOM BENEFITS THE WITCH...



...AND DAMAGES THE HUMAN.



IT IS THE CORNERSTONE OF THIS GAME... YET LADY ERIKA CREATED HER OWN SEALED ROOM AND PUT ELEVEN PEOPLE INSIDE OF IT.

WHY WOULD LADY ERIKA TAKE ELEVEN OF HER OWN PAWNS AND HIDE THEM AWAY?



WHAT COULD ERIKA BE PLOTTING?

IT IS AN EERIE MOVE.



THAT MAKES EXECUTING THE SECOND NIGHT HARDER.

BUT THANKS TO THAT, IT'S HARDER TO REACH THE SURVIVORS.

DUNNO.





...MY
ANSWER
...!

HOW
WILL YOU
HANDLE
THIS
ONE...?

THIS
IS...



...AND I
SHOULD
LOOK
FOR IT.

THE WRITER
CLAIMS TO
HAVE TAKEN
BATTLER
USHIROMYA'S
BODY...

IT IS
ADVANCE
NOTICE
OF A
CRIME.

WELL,
POST-
FACTUM
NOTICE.

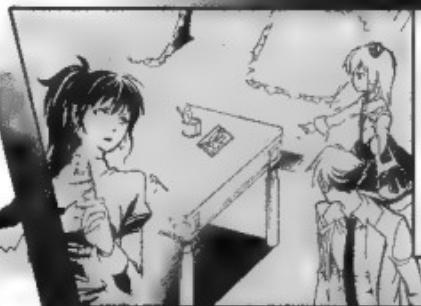
...OF THE
SECOND
NIGHT?

IT DOES
NOT REFER
TO THE
TWO WHO
ARE TORN
APART...

...BUT
REMEMBER,
THIS LETTER
IS AN ATTACK
FROM
BATTLER,
THE WITCH-
SIDE
PLAYER.

IT'S NOT
PARTICULARLY
FRESH OR
UNEXPECTED
TO HAVE A BODY
DISAPPEAR...

NO, IT
DOESN'T.



CALL
BATTLER
OUT HERE,
PLANOR.

MIRA
CROWNING
ヒラ
ヒラ
PLEASE
DON'T TELL ME
THAT IF THE
PRESENTATION
IS THE SAME,
SO IS THE
TRICK ITSELF.

GOOD
GRIEF.

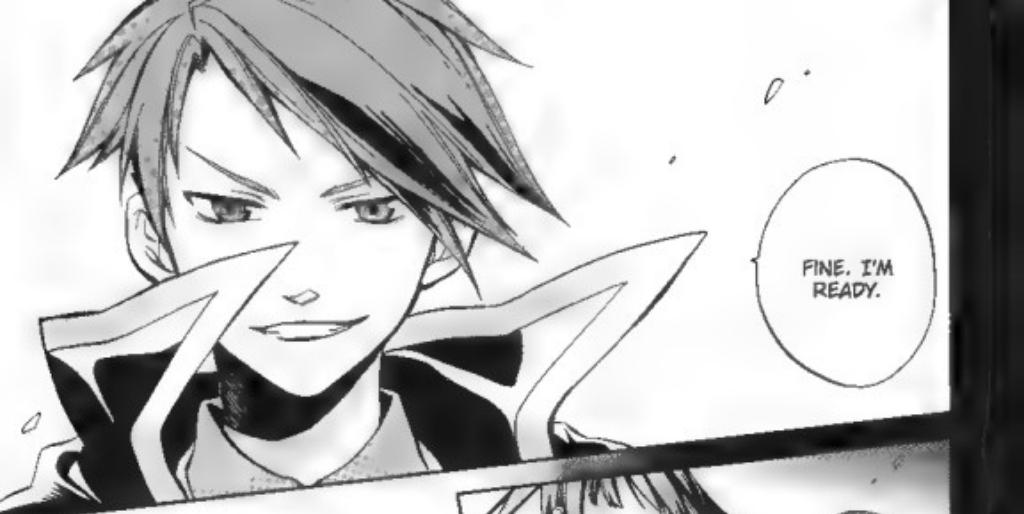
ZARA
CNOOSH

VERY
WELL.

FUMA
CNOOSH

...WE
WISH
TO TAKE
OUR
TURN
...!

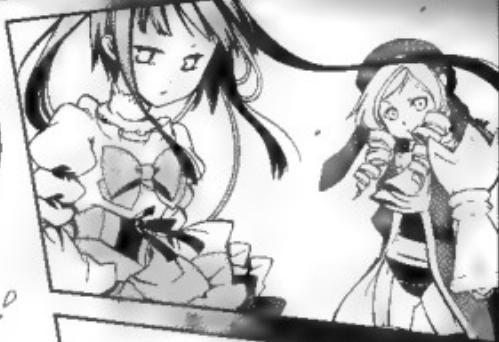
LORD
BATTLER
...



FINE. I'M READY.

I MUST APOLOGIZE TO YOU FOR SOMETHING.

IN FACT...
...THIS IS AN APOLOGY.



I'M EVER SO SORRY.

ACTUALLY,
I FAILED TO
DECLARE A MOVE.

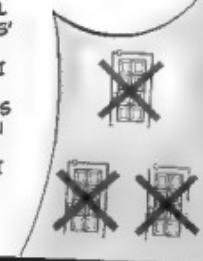


.....?





ABOUT THE RETROACTIVE SEALS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I SEALED ONE MORE PLACE...



WELL, FINE. I ALLOWED YOU TO USE THEM.

I HEREBY REPORT.

AT THE TIME
OF PERFORMING
HER AUTOPSY,
LADY ERIKA LEFT
BATTLER'S
GUEST ROOM
SEALED.

OUT OF
RESPECT FOR
YOU, THE GAME
MASTER, I CHOSE
TO USE MY LAST
SEAL TO CLOSE
JUST THE ROOM
THAT HELD
BATTLER-SAN'S
CORPSE.

NORMALLY,
I WOULD
HAVE SEALED
ALL FIVE OF
THE VICTIMS'
ROOMS, BUT I
DID NOT HAVE
ENOUGH TO
COVER THEM.

...BUT THE
APPEARANCE
OF THIS
LETTER
FORCED MY
HAND...

I THOUGHT
I WOULD WAIT TO
REPORT THIS TILL
WHEN I WENT TO
THE MANSION TO
INVESTIGATE THE
ROOM WHERE
YOUR BODY
WAS HELD...

WH—
WHY
WOULD
YOU SAY
THAT?

SO YOU
WENT TO THE
TROUBLE OF
PUTTING THE
LID ON MY
COFFIN.

...AND PREVIOUS GAMES HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THERE IS NO EIGHTEENTH PERSON.

EXCLUDING LADY ERIKA, THERE ARE SEVENTEEN ON THE ISLAND...



WITH APOLOGIES FOR THE POST-FACTUM REPORT, THE ROOM WITH YOUR BODY IS ALSO SEALED.

AS I'M SURE YOU KNOW, THE COUSINS' ROOM AND ADJACENT ROOM ARE NOW SEALED.

WHICH MEANS...

KASA COLLECTED
IT

...NOT LINE UP THE SAME WAY ANYMORE. HEE-HEE-HEE!

...MIGHT PER-
HAPS...

...THE PERSON WHO COULD HAVE LEFT THIS LETTER AND SPIRITED YOUR BODY AWAY...

THERE'S NO
REASON TO
PANIC. SHE
JUST DELAYED
HER REPORT,
THAT'S ALL.

CALM
DOWN.

BAT-
TLE-
SAN...

...THAT I
MIGHT NOT
ACTUALLY
BE DEAD.

WITHOUT
THE ABILITY
TO CONFIRM
DEATHS, ERIKA
ALWAYS
SUSPECTED...

...WRITE
A LETTER
CLAIMING I
MADE THE
BODY
DISAPPEAR,
LEAVE IT
OUTSIDE THE
GUESTHOUSE
DOOR, THEN
VANISH.

IF I WAS
ALIVE, I COULD
LEAVE MY
GUEST ROOM
WHILE THE
OTHERS WERE
LOCKED UP...

THAT'S
WHY SHE
SEALED MY
ROOM.



...I
WOULD
HAVE TO
BREAK
THE
SEAL
WHEN
LEAVING
THE
GUEST
ROOM.

IF THIS IS
THE TRUE
EXPLA-
NATION,
THEN WITH
ERIKA'S
SEALS...

...THE BROKEN
SEAL ON THE
GUEST ROOM
MEANS
ADMITTING THAT
AT LEAST ONE
OF THE
VICTIMS HAS
TO ACTUALLY
BE ALIVE.



IF THE
TRICK CAN'T
BE PULLED
OFF WITHOUT
BREAKING THE
SEAL, THEN
GIVEN THAT ALL
SURVIVORS
ARE IN THE
GUESTHOUSE...



...THEN
THERE'S NO
WAY THAT
THIS LETTER
COULD HAVE
APPEARED.

ERIKA IS
SUGGESTING
THAT IF MY
"DEAD" BODY
STAYS PUT
WITHOUT
BREAKING
THE SEAL...



...BY
CHANGING
THE COURSE
THE GAME TOOK.

IF I'D
KNOWN
ABOUT
THIS SEAL
AHEAD OF
TIME, I
COULD
HAVE
EVASSED
THIS...

...IT MIGHT END
UP CAUSING A
CONTRADICTION
WITH MY OWN
TRICK!

AND
THAT
CONTRA-
DICTION
IS A
LOGIC
ERROR.

IF ERIKA'S
RIGHT, AND
THE PAWN
BATTLES
IS IN FACT
STILL ALIVE
AND
LEFT THE
LETTER...

...AND
GIVEN
THAT I
ACCEPTED
HER
SEALS...





LOGIC
ERROR?



IT
IS THE
WORST
POSSIBLE
MISTAKE
THE
WITCH-
SIDE
PLAYER
CAN
COMMIT.

IT
MEANS
THE
DETAILS
OF THE
STORY
DO NOT
LINE UP.



I FEEL LIKE
I HEARD
THAT TERM
RIGHT AT THE
START OF
THIS STORY.



TAKE, FOR
EXAMPLE, THE
ARGUMENT
BETWEEN
MARIA AND
ERIKA ABOUT
THE CANDY-
CREATING
SPELL.

COR-
RECT.



A LOGIC
ERROR IS A
TRICK THAT
BECOMES
IMPOSSIBLE

...
OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.

THE MAGIC WORKED BECAUSE SHE WAS ABLE TO ACCEPT THE MAGICAL ILLUSION THAT THE CANDY APPEARED INSIDE THE CUP BY MAGIC.

REMEMBER, MY DEAR!

TO BE CRUELLY FRANK...

...IT WAS ALL SLEIGHT OF HAND.

BUT AS MARIA DID NOT WITNESS THE PROCESS OF THE MAGIC TRICK, SHE RECEIVED ONLY THE END RESULT.

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THIS LETTER BELONGS TO THE LATTER CATEGORY.

...OR IT CAN BE "MAGIC WITH RESULTS," SOMETHING THAT GIVES THE OBSERVER A MAGICAL RESULT, SUCH AS THE CANDY.

SO IN THIS CASE, THE CANDY INSIDE THE CUP WOULD BE THE MYSTERIOUS LETTER THAT ERIKA PICKED UP.

YES. MAGIC CAN BE AN "ILLUSION," A LIE WITHOUT AN OBSERVER...

SO BY CLAIMING THAT A WITCH PLACED THE LETTER THERE THROUGH MAGIC...

I SEE.

SO IT MUST BE A TRICK.

...ONII-CHAN IS TRYING TO MAKE IT "MAGIC WITH RESULTS."

...IT MUST STILL BE A TRICK THAT COULD BE FEASIBLE BY HUMAN METHODS.

HOWEVER...

...ONE CAN EMBELLISH THIS ACT INTO A MYSTERIOUS SPELL WHICH COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN PLACED BY A WITCH.

EXACTLY.

SINCE ALL OF THE SURVIVORS ARE SEALED IN THE GUEST-HOUSE...



BUT WHAT IF...

...SHE TRIED?

...IT
MIGHT BE A
BIT UNFAIR,
BUT IT STILL
ALLOWS THE
RED TRUTH
TO STAND.

BUT IF
YOU CAN
INSTANTLY
SWITCH
OUT TO A
DIFFERENT
TRICK THAT
DOES NOT
VIOLATE
THE RED
TRUTH...



RED
TRUTH THAT
CONTRADICTS
YOUR OWN
TRICK IS JUST
A LIE. THAT'S
FLAGRANTLY
BREAKING THE
RULES.

RED
TRUTH CAN
ONLY BE
SAID ABOUT
ACTUAL
TRUTH,
RIGHT?

...THAT
"THE SEAL
ON THE
INSIDE OF
THE CUP
WAS KEPT
WHOLE."

TRICK #1

IN THIS
CASE, THE WITCH
PLAYER MUST
PRESENT A
DIFFERENT
TRICK
THAT DOES NOT
CONTRADICT
THE ESTABLISHED
RED TRUTH...

EXACTLY.

...THEN IT VIOLATES THE PRECONDITION THAT ALL MAGIC HAS TO BE POSSIBLE THROUGH MERE TRICKS.



IF THE TRICK DOES NOT ALIGN WITH THE RED TRUTH...

BUT EVEN STILL, THE NEW TRICK HAS TO REST WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF ALL THE STATED RED TRUTH IN PLAY.



A FATAL DEFEAT FOR THE WITCH PLAYER...

THAT'S A LOGIC ERROR.



AND THE RESULT OF THAT...



STUPID,
STUPID
ONII-
CHAN!!

THINGS WENT
ALL CRAZY
BECAUSE YOU
WERE DUMB
ENOUGH TO
ALLOW ERIKA
TO GO BACK
AND PLACE
THOSE SEALS!

HE IS
FREE TO
BREAK
THE SEAL.

IT WASN'T
BEEN STATED
IN RED
TRUTH YET IF
THE GUEST
ROOM SEAL
IS INTACT.

IT IS NOT
YET THE
STAGE TO
PANIC.

THEIR BODIES
HAVEN'T BEEN
CLAIMED DEAD
WITH RED TRUTH
EITHER, JUST
LIKE HIS.

YOU'RE
RIGHT...

IF HE
DOESN'T,
HE CAN HAVE
ANOTHER
PERSON BE
ALIVE...
...AND
ALLOW
THEM
TO HAVE
PLACED
THE
LETTER.



HE COULD
EVEN CLAIM
THAT ALL OF
THEM ARE
STILL ALIVE,
JUST PLAYING
DEAD.

THE GAME
MASTER IS
ALLOWED TO
SMOOTHLY
ALTER HIS
PLOT AT
WILL...

...TO
EXPLAIN
THE TRICK
OF ERIKA'S
SEAL AND
THE LETTER,
AS LONG
AS IT
DOES NOT
CONTRADICT
ANYTHING.



HOW-EVER...

THIS IS
A VERY
PAINFUL
MOVE TO
MAKE.

GIVEN
THAT WE
ONLY JUST
FINISHED
THE FIRST
NIGHT...

...CHANGING
THE SCENARIO
FROM ITS
ORIGINAL VISION
PARTWAY
THROUGH
CAUSES THE
STORY TO
WARP.

THIS MOVE
COULD BE
THE ONE
THAT KILLS
BATTLER.

Nice to see you again!
Thank you for picking up the
fourth volume of Umineko
WHEN THEY CRY Episode 6!

After the trials
of love in the last
volume, we're back
to the usual Umineko
witch vs. human logic
battles. What did you
think? What will Battler
do to get out of this one?
I hope you come back for
the next volume to find out.

SPECIAL THANKS

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Tada-sama, Kazuki-sama,
Hamako-sama, Fujiwara-
sama, Yukarin-sama,
my family,

& You!

THANK YOU SO MUCH!
HINATE HOMOTAMA

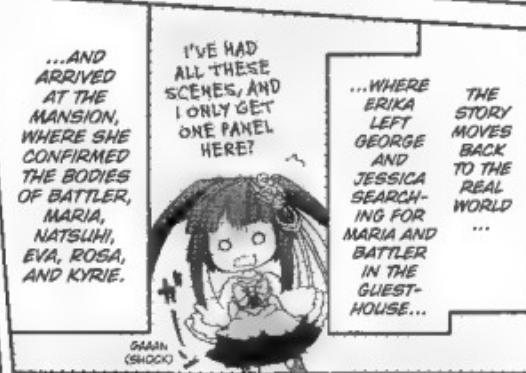
THEY
SEEM
TO BE
HAVING
FUN



CHAPTER 12 BACKSTORY



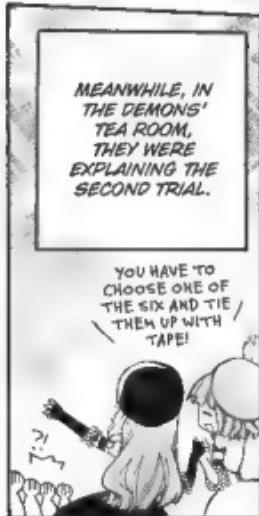
CHAPTER 13 BACKSTORY



CHAPTER 14 BACKSTORY



CHAPTER 15 BACKSTORY





SHE'S STILL DRAGGING IT ALONG...? ②



FLEDGLING BEATO IS STILL A BABY

HYAKO (COPP)



SEIYA MONOGATARI COLOR WORKS





UMINEKO WHEN THEY CRY

Episode 6: Dawn of the Golden Witch ②

**RYUKISHI07
Hinase Momoyama**

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